FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 APRIL 1983

Schultz Tour - Lebanon

Secretary of State George Shultz arrived in Cairo on 25 April and met with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak the following day, according to MENA reports. Meanwhile, "knowledgeable circles" in Damascus cited by Radio Monte Carlo indicated that the Syrian leaders will be ready to receive Shultz and listen to his views although this does not mean that Syria is changing its basic position on current issues. Noting that Shultz is scheduled to meet Israeli leaders on 27 april, Jerusalem television said the tripartite negotiations at Khaldah and Netanya will be resumed only after Shultz' visit. Earlier, Jerusalem radio reported that the delegates at Khaldah had prepared a document for Shultz outlining the disagreements between Israel and Lebanon. While revealing that some difficulties were overcome at the 25 April Khaldah talks, the Lebanese delegation spokesman underscored his side's adherence to President Amin al-Jumayyil's view that while Lebanon wants an agreement it is determined that this should not be harmful to it, according to remarks broadcast by Beirut radio. A high-level Lebanese source said Shultz' diplomacy will accelerate the negotiations but will not be able to overcome all obstacles and reach a "radical solution," Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Secretary Shultz will be received in Israel with "friendliness and warmth," especially since he has struggled within the Reagan administration against pressuring Israel to soften its positions and since he was the one primarily responsible for the U.S. decision to release to Israel the data necessary for the production of the Lavi aircraft, Israel's YEDIOT AHARANOT declared. In a different vein Israeli Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon accused the United States of "clearly and continuously" trying to stop Israel from obtaining "full achievements" in the negotiations with Lebanon. The Americans are doing this in order to link Lebanon with "Judaea and Samaria," Sharon was quoted by Jerusalem radio.

While diplomatic activity and comment focused on Shultz' Middle East tour, tension continued in the Al-Biqa' valley as a result of renewed exchanges of fire, numerous Israeli overflights, and further military preparations by the IDF and Syrians, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Damascus radio cited TASS on new IDF tankdeployments in the area. In a separate development, the Voice of Lebanon said the 18 April U.S. Embassy bombing was aimed at a meeting of U.S. intelligence officials, adding "it is feared that collusion existed between elements within the embassy and quarters affiliated" with a certain state's intelligence service.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Summit Postponement — The emergency Arab summit has been postponed until Secretary Shultz concludes his visit to the region, Moroccan sources cited by WAKH revealed on 26 April.

Arab Contacts — Saudi King Fahd received Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Riyadh, SPA reported. Meanwhile, the Jordanian foreign and information ministers delivered messages from King Husayn to the YAR president and the amir of Bahrain, according to Amman television and WAKH.

PLO Affairs

The Fatah Central Committee resolved to uphold the principle that the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestinian people and that the Fes summit peace plan is the "minimum limit" acceptable to the Palestinians, a Palestinian source cited by KUNA disclosed. According to KUNA, diplomatic observers in Tunis considered the outcome of the Fatah meeting as indicating that the current stalemate in the PLO-Jordanian dialogue will continue. Nevertheless, PLO information official Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman said the Fatah meeting focused on the "coming resumption" of Palestinian-Jordanian negotiations, Algiers Voice of Palestine radio reported. A Palestinian source cited by Radio Monte Carlo likewise revealed that the Fatah Central Committee agreed to revive the PLO-Jordanian talks.

West Bank

U.S. health experts have concluded that the recent illness which affected Arab girls in several West Bank areas was primarily the result of "psychogenic factors," the Israeli Health Ministry director general announced at a news conference broadcast by Jerusalem radio. The fear of poisoning may have been sparked off by some girls' accidental exposure to hydrogen sulfate, the official noted.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi in Nigeria — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi arrived in Lagos at the start of a 4-day visit to Nigeria, Lagos radio noted.

Search of Planes — The search of the Libyan aircraft in Brazil was the result of "flagrant CIA interference and influence," JANA asserted in a report on the Brazilian authorities' search of transport planes which stopped over in Brazil en route to Nicaragua.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi aircraft attacked military targets deep inside Iran, scoring direct and effective hits, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio announced. Tehran radio said two Iraqi planes bombed residential areas of Pol-e Dokhtar, southwest of Khorramabad, killing or wounding "scores" of civilians.

FBIS

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WAKH: Arab Summit Reportedly Postponed

GF260648 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0610 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Rabat, 26 Apr (WAKH) — Informed Moroccan sources said today that the Arab summit, which was supposed to be held in early May, has been postponed again until U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz ends his visit to the region.

These sources have told the GULF NEWS AGENCY, WAKH, correspondent in Rabat that Morocco, in agreement with the PLO, recently decided that the summit should be postponed again until the general outlines become clear in light of what the U.S. envoy will present during his upcoming visit, which will include Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Israel, and most likely Syria, Algeria, and Morocco.

The sources affirmed that Yasir 'Arafat has showed readiness to resume talks with Jordan in light of what Shultz will do, but with no prior conditions.

Furthermore, the sources believe that Shultz carries instructive and practical suggestions from President Reagan to the Arab leaders that include slight modification in the Reagan plan in order to make it acceptable. Moreover, the sources said Shultz is likely to be carrying pressure against Israel to make it show leniency in negotiations with Lebanon in order to make the Arabs feel that Washington is committed to its credibility. The same sources said such tactics might get the summit conference out of impasse and make the Reagan plan more credible.

Fatah Official Comments on Shultz' Mideast Visit

GF251322 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 24 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member Salim az-Za'nun, alias Abu al-Adib, has asserted that there has been no change in the Palestinian stand adopted during the meetings of Palestinian leaders in Kuwait.

In a statement to AL-WATAN he declared: Our stand remains clear, namely "no" to delegating anyone on behalf of the PLO and "no" to the Reagan plan.

In answer to a question on U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' tour of the Middle East, Abu al-Adib said that the visit aims to persuade Israel to speed up its withdrawal from Lebanon as a prelude to exerting pressure on Jordan to enter into negotiations without the PLO.

He added: The Jordanian Government, however, will not fall into this trap and do what the United States wants. This was affirmed by King Husayn when he placed the greater part of the responsibility for the failure of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks on the U.S. Government.

Referring to President Reagan's recent remarks, Abu al-Adib said: "I am not surprised to hear this from President Reagan. We still remember that when Reagan assumed office he described the PLO as terrorist." Abu al-Adib added that Reagan's remarks confirm the soundness of the Palestinian leadership's decision in not accepting the Reagan plan. He said that these remarks also indicate that the U.S. Government was setting a trap for the Palestinian revolution in order to divest it politically of its ability to remain an obstacle to a settlement based on the Reagan plan.

PLO's Al-Wazir Urges U.S. To Reconsider Position

PM251220 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 17 Apr 83 pp 1, 19

[Samir Sa'd ad-Din report: "Abu Jihad Tells AR-RIYAD: The Enemy Is Preparing for Aggression Against Palestinian and Syrian Forces"]

[Text] Nicosia — Deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution's forces Khalil al-Wazir — Abu Jihad — has called for more vigilance in anticipation of new Israeli aggression against Syrian and Palestinian forces.

In a statement to AR-RIYAD Abu Jihad said that the enemy relies on the policy of fait accompli. He charged that the United States was interfering in Palestinian and Arab internal affairs when it urged the Arabs to withdraw their recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

He added that with every passing day the Zionist enemy consolidates its aggressive presence. Whenever any enemy aggression fails to achieve results the enemy begins to contemplate fresh aggression, Abu Jihad said. He added: The present enemy reinforcements and the threats made by top enemy leaders bring us face to face with one obvious fact: We must expect enemy aggression to continue and enemy threats to be carried out. There is nothing to make the enemy hesitate, since it is aware of the bad Arab situation resulting from division and disunity. The enemy's policy is to impose a fait accompli. That is why we must always be prepared to confront enemy designs. The good elements in our nation are urged to make a move for our salvation and remedy our disunity and weakness. The enemy fears nothing more than Arab unity of ranks and unity of Arab forces.

Referring to the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, Abu Jihad said that there is no deadlock, that the dialogue is continuing, and that officials from both sides will meet soon.

He added: The failure to achieve results regarding the Reagan plan was due to the fact that this plan does not fulfill Palestinian interests and rights and it says no to the PLO, no to a Palestinian state, and no to self-determination. The responsibility for the lack of results falls on President Reagan and the U.S. Administration, which continues to ignore these rights. The [U.S.] Administation should reconsider its position vis-a-vis the Palestinian rights and the PLO and should realize that no steps toward a settlement in the region are possible with the continued denial of Palestinian rights and refusal to recognize the PLO.

He added: The clamor raised by the United States after the suspension of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue and Shultz's statements blaming what he called extremist elements in the PLO and calling on the Arab states to reconsider their attitude toward the PLO'S right to represent the Palestinian people and to withdraw their recognition of the PLO constitute unacceptable interference in the affairs of our people and the PLO and in the domestic affairs of the Arab nation, a doomed attempt to put

pressure on the Arab nation and an abortive move against the PLO.

PLO Officials Condemn Reagan, Shultz Statements

LD260905 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Excerpts] The thoughtless statements which reflect the extent of imperialist hatred and rancor in the heart of U.S. President Ronald Reagan against the PLO and against our Palestinian people, have prompted reaction, denunciation and condemnation from official Arab and Palestinian circles.

At the Palestinian level, the PLO directly answered Reagan's statements through the statements of a number of Palestinian leaders who denounced and condemned these statements and their contents.

The Palestinian leadership has asserted that the statements of U.S. President Ronald Reagan concerning the right of representation of the PLO contradicts international legality and human rights. They do not rely on any international principles. Through its armed and political struggle, the PLO has proved that its role cannot be challenged by anyone.

The official spokesman of the PLO 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar said that the deliberate American disregard of the truth of the organization is the real problem in U.S. policy. He added: The statements by President Reagan and by his secretary of state, George Shultz, again reveal the hostile American attitude to Palestinian and Arab rights. Moreover, they reveal a scandalous ignorance of the nature of the Palestinian reality in the Arab arena.

On the one hand, the real stance of the United States has been exposed in some Arab states. The statements by Reagan and Shultz assume the form of instructions and orders full of arrogance and disdain, and constitute interference in the affairs of the Arab nation. There is no doubt that any response by an Arab side to such statements will be an act of political suicide by the quarter which responds to them.

Abu Mayzar added: On the other hand, it appears that Reagan and Shultz are ignorant of the fact that the Rabat resolutions have confirmed the legitimacy of the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people. This legitimacy has not been (?challenged). Before Rabat, the revolution under the PLO leadership acted as a representative of the Palestinian people through its armed struggle and the blood of the thousands of martyrs who fell for the sake of our people's cause and their just rights. Therefore, this deliberate U.S. disregard for the truth of the PLO is the real problem of U.S. policy in the area and in dealing with the Arab-Zionist struggle.

The official PLO spokesman said that the United States must realize and reconize sooner or later that the PLO is not only a political and military grouping but also represents the existence and unity of the Palestinian people. It also means the continuation of the Palestinian struggle and the embodiment of the gallant campaign to recover the rights of the Palestinian people. In other words, the PLO is the symbol of the Palestinian homeland.

Therefore, the PLO is the sole organization in the world having no rival to challenge its right to represent the Palestinian people. Quite clearly, the PLO means the symbolic homeland of the Palestinian people to our Palestinian people and to our Arab nation. Therefore, to oppose the PLO is a national and universal crime. The PLO will remain stronger than all the U.S. capitulationist schemes and stronger than all the statements by Reagan and Shultz.

Brother Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman, the official in charge of Palestinian information, said with regard to President Reagan's statements that the PLO is not the obstacle in the way of peace, but it is U.S. persistence to ignore the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. U.S. President Reagan would have done better before making these arbitrary statements if he had gone back to the principles of the UN Organization and to the principles of the U.S. Constitution itself. Only then should he pass judgement on the PLO in accordance with international legality and with the human rights and principles established by George Washington in America. It is the U.S. Administration that violates these principles and that denies self-determination to 5 million Palestinians. It upholds this right for 1,500 citizens in the Falklands.

At its meeting yesterday, the Fatah Central Committee studied the recent statements by U.S. President Ronald Reagan. The Fatah movement affirmed that these statements have come to confirm the truth about the hostile U.S. attitude toward the PLO and toward the legitimate rights of our Palestinian people including their right to self-determination and their right to establish their own independent Palestinian state.

On the other hand, it affirms the correctness of the line the PLO follows by rejecting the Reagan plan which is no more than an ambush laid for the PLO leadership and an attempt to pull the rug from under its feet and consequently to strip it of all the political and military gains which it has achieved in 19 years of struggle at various levels in all Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas.

Fatah Confirms Stand on Palestine Representation

LD251409 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1310 GMT 25 Apr 83

[By KUNA correspondent Nabil Barad'i]

[Excerpts] Tunis, 25 Apr (KUNA) — A Palestinian source said here today that the Fatah Central Committee ended its meetings here last night with confirmation of its refusal to allow anyone to represent the Palestinian people. This was taken by diplomatic observers here to mean that the current stalemate in the dialogue between the PLO and Jordan will continue for the present.

The source, who did not wish to be named, told KUNA that the Fatah Central Committee meeting chaired by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat decided "to uphold the principle of the PLO'S sole representation of the Palestinian people and the consideration of the Arab peace plan, adopted at

the Arab Fes summit conference as the minimum limit that the Palestinians would accept for solving the Middle East question."

The Palestinian source said that the Fatah Central Committee decided to send envoys to the various Arab countries to explain its position and "the new political developments in the Palestinian, Arab, and international spheres."

The source said that during its meeting the Fatah Central Committee also discussed "Palestinian-Jordanian relations and the recent U.S. statements on the Middle East and the visit which U.S. secretary of State George Shultz will be paying to the region, and adopted the decisions that the committee members deemed fit for these matters." The source, however, declined to reveal what these decisions were, being content to say "that things will be known in their due course."

'Arafat Holds Press Conference in Prague

AU221048 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 20 Apr 83 p 7

["MD"-signed report on a press conference given by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, in Prague on 19 April 1983, headlined "Thanks for Solidarity, Support, and Assistance"]

[Text] **Prague, 19 Apr (Our Correspondent) — At a press conference for Czechoslovak and foreign journalists held in Prague on Tuesday, Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, stressed in his opening words that we are currently witnessing escalated military pressure by Israel on the Palestinian and Syrian armed forces in the al-Biqa' valley. This was affirmed also by the new Israeli defense minister when he said that Israeli detachments are now in a high state of military alert.**

At the same time the Palestinian people in the occupied territories are facing a number of serious problems. What is involved is a broad range of crimes, beginning with the massacres in the Sabra and Shatila camps and ending with the latest ones, particularly the poisoning of Palestinian girl students in Janin, on the West Bank of the River Jordan.

The highest Palestinian representative further spoke about systematic confiscation of land, construction of militarized settlements, mass imprisonments, internments and constant attempts to provoke panic among the Palestinian population in the occupied territory. At the same time there is the obvious escalation of the conflict, manifested by the unlimited U.S. support for Israel. This support continues in all possible ways — militarily, diplomatically, politically, financially, economically, and from the viewpoint of information. **It is actually an appeal formulated in advance to the Israeli ruling circles to continue their actions and their pressure on the Palestinian population in the occupied territories and outside it and vias-a-vis all Arab countries.**

Yasir 'Arafat further underscored the unforgettable heroism shown by the Palestinian and Lebanese fighters when defending Beirut against Israeli aggression, which Israel and the United States thought could end with the PLO's destruction. This did not occur, however. Israeli arrogance shattered among the Beirut walls in the longest ever war and military confrontation between Arabs and Israel.

Answering journalists' questions, the leading Palestinian representative noted, among other things, the rapid resurgence of Palestinian institutions after leaving Beirut. **Palestinian educational, scientific, cultural, social, and health institutions have been rebuilt in a very short time, and the planning and study centers, and Palestinian armed forces have been restructured.**

When he spoke about the PNC session in Algiers, 'Arafat said that it had yielded resolutions attesting to the unity of the Palestinian stance. "For this reason, the PNC session in Algiers was a new watershed, a new starting point of the struggle of the Arab people of Palestine, of the PLO."

Asked whether deliberations at the UN forum could be an easier path to resolving the crisis in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, and whether the United States and its allies would not oppose the PLO's presence at these deliberations, whether as an independent delegation or within the framework of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation by appointing its representatives to this delegation, 'Arafat said: "The Fes resolutions point out quite clearly that five standing members of the Security Council should at the same time be the guarantors of security and peaceful settlement in the Middle East and also of the Palestinian question. According to our notion, lasting and just peace in the Middle East consists of ensuring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, of their right to return to their homeland, to self-determination, and to establishing an independent state in accordance with international law. A seven-member committee has been set up to follow the implementation of this resolution. We are convinced that this is a necessary, united, and common world position on the Palestinian question. We in the PLO agreed in 1977 with the joint Soviet-American declaration on the solution of the Mideast conflict (It was published on 1 October 1977, but the American Government withdrew from it shortly afterwards — ed.) and in connection with this declaration we also agreed to a joint Arab delegation, of which the PLO would be a part. But I would like to tell you that **nobody can bypass the PLO, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. And I cannot imagine any solution or stabilization of the situation in the Middle East without the implementation of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people which, in the end, have been approved by UN resolutions.w**

On the situation in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' valley, Yasir 'Arafat said that Israel keeps on escalating tension here. He further noted that there also are Israeli attempts to build bases and airfields on Lebanese territory. All this creates a danger not only for the Palestinian and Syrian detachments in the Al-Biqa' valley, but also for the Lebanese people and for the entire Middle East region. "And especially if we realize that these measures enjoy the full support and consent of the U.S. Government. It is enough to recall the recent consent of Congress to providing further material support for Israel. It seems to be an American appeal to Israel to continue its aggressive actions in Lebanon," the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee stressed.

On a question concerning the PLO's stance on the Reagan plan and the recent Palestinian-Jordanian negotiations, Yasir 'Arafat said:

"One has to see the difference between us and our brothers in Jordan. The difference between us concerns, above all, the question of the interpretation of the Reagan plan. Our stance is clear. We are prepared, as was said in Fes, to participate in building a just peace in the Middle East on the basis of the Arab plan from Fes. **The Reagan plan is not in accord with the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people; it does not contain the right to self-determination, and this is our sacred right.w**

Yasir 'Arafat further condemned the U.S. military presence in Lebanon and said that **what is involved is, in essence, an attempt to establish military bases in the Mediterranean region.** "In other words, the entire Israeli aggression against the Lebanese and the Palestinian people was, in essence, an American plan, according to which Israeli detachments should be later replaced by American detachments. This was to be a practical expression of the Israeli-U.S. strategic alliance, which was signed shortly before the aggression started." 'Arafat further said that **there exists a plan to increase the number of American troops in Lebanon in the near future from the existing 6,000 to 35,000.**

In the further course of the press conference, Yasir 'Arafat assessed very positively the Political Declaration of the Prague session of the highest representatives of the Warsaw Pact member states. He noted that the PNC session had adopted a special resolution appreciating a passage in this declaration pertaining to the Middle East. "We also appreciate the manner in which this document speaks about the danger of a world nuclear conflict, behind which are imperialist circles."

In the closing part of the press conference, the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee highly underscored the results of his visit to Czechoslovakia.

vIt was a very successful visit to this friendly country, because we had very constructive and very positive talks with Comrades Husak and Bilak and other Czechoslovak officials, during which we discussed a number of questions, be it in a broader international-political framework from the Mideastern point of view, but especially regarding the just Palestinian cause. I found the Czechoslovak side's positions and all the support for our just rights very positive.w

Finally, Yasir 'Arafat thanked the CSSR and all its people for all their support and their clear, principled positions.

Fatah's Salah Khalaf Interviewed by AD-DUSTUR

JN251030 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 25 Apr 83 p 16

[Dispatch from Washington by 'Abd as-Salam Masarwah]

[Excerpts] Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, is considered the second in command of the Fatah movement, which is the largest PLO group. He is, in fact, the political planner and Palestinian thinker who upset all balances and changed the opinion of some PLO factions which owe allegiance to the so-called Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. Abu Iyad's stand and historic speech at the 16th PNC were among the factors which reunited the Palestinian family.

In this exclusive dialogue which we had with him during his stay in Kuwait, Abu Iyad discloses important facts, beginning with the recent European statement which has for the first time admitted that the PLO is the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative.

The European Statement

AD-DUSTUR: What is your comment on the recent political moves toward the Palestinian question? Let us begin with the statement recently issued by the European group.

Abu Iyad: There is a big development in this statement compared with the one issued in Venice. There are many positive points in this statement. These points have, in my opinion, centered on a number of developments in the European stand.

First, this statement has for the first time stipulated that the PLO should participate in the peace process and negotiations without mentioning any other Palestinian side. The Venice statement addressed the PLO and other Palestinians; this time the statement talked only about the PLO.

The second positive point, in my opinion, is the insistence on halting the establishment of settlements and warning Israel not to continue its settlements policy.

The third point is that the Europeans frankly mentioned the right to self-determination regardless of its results. By this they naturally mean even if this self-determination leads to an independent Palestinian state.

The fourth point is the positive evaluation of the PNC resolutions. I think that this is the first time that a responsible European body evaluated the PNC resolutions and considered them a step along the path of peace. The European Group did not say these resolutions obstruct peace as some Arab circles have regrettably said.

The last point in the statement which shows that this statement was more positive than the previous ones is the reference to the Fes summit resolutions. The statement said that this Arab peace plan is the first plan which includes a positive and constructive step toward a just and lasting peace in the region. These are, in fact, the positive points in this new European statement. There is a big difference between these resolutions and those of the Venice statement 2 years ago.

The U.S. Stance

AD-DUSTUR: Once this new European stand is compared with the traditional hardline U.S. stand, will the European Group try to influence the U.S. stance in an attempt to change it or make it a bit more flexible?

Abu Iyad: There is no doubt that there is a lot of U.S. pressure on the fields of movement in Europe. I believe that the Arabs

should follow up this statement so that a positive distinguished European stand different from that of the United States may for the first time emerge toward the Palestinian question.

As for the U.S. stand many Arab pressures have regrettably not been exercised. With a few such pressures we could have amended the U.S. policy. However, unfortunately we always accede to the U.S. pressure and do not try to put pressure on the United States.

I believe that the European countries can play a role. It is true that there is U.S. hegemony over European policy. Meanwhile, some European countries, which came out with this statement that conflicts with Reagan's plan, Camp David, and all U.S. political utterances, have some scope for maneuver. I believe that the rigid U.S. policy can only be overcome by stressing that Israel is a burden to the United States and not a U.S. need.

The Arab Action

AD-DUSTUR: How can the Arabs undertake this clear operation?

Abu Iyad: I am almost desperate about the present Arab stand. I believe that this Arab weakness before the United States despite all the U.S. interests in our hands will lead to a future change if the situation remains as it is. I cannot say where this change will take place, but it will be a very extremist change because Arab collapse has reached rock bottom. It is not a question of increasing collapse and Arab impotence — it has already bottomed out.

I think that if the Arab stand remains as weak as it is now an extremist or radical change will occur in the Arab region. Once again I cannot say how and where. But be quite sure that this will happen.

The National Council

AD-DUSTUR: Some people believe that the PNC resolutions were a new starting point for the Palestinian revolution. How can these resolutions be popularized so as to win the support of the Palestinian people's friends?

Abu Iyad: What distinguishes the Algiers session and resolutions is the fact that in Beirut the PLO was required to be dealt a military and political blow and to be materially eliminatedfrom existence. However, the PLO scored a relative victory through its steadfastness although we lost a base and a lot of land. It was won by not giving up the land easily under Arab impotence and treason and in view of what has been determined for Lebanon. I believe that what has happened in Algiers was a political victory for the PLO. Part of this victory is the fact that in this session the PLO did not discuss organizational or secondary issues. It was the first PNC session that discussed the political issue in depth and with responsibility. To be honest I can say that all the resistance groups in this session had a feeling of responsibility and were aware of the existing Palestinian dispersal. It was actually a renovation of all the PLO's previous political programs. The resolutions expressed the Palestinian people's original principles and the new Palestinian leadership's flexibility of movement. They opened doors and did not close them to anything.

I would like to say that there is a difference between solution and capitulation. I call for a political solution for the sake of peace and not a capitulatory solution by which I am asked to take everything for granted and say Israel is a preordained fate and that the United States is also a preordained fate which I must accept at home and in the Arab community. Consequently, the PNC resolutions united all the Palestinian people's factions, whether leftists, rightists, or neutral. I also believe that the resolutions have to a certain extent expressed Arab aspirations for a solution which has no hint of capitulation — a practical solution which responds to what the Palestinian Arab people want at this stage of Arab impotence as I have already said. On the world level, I think that all the articles I read in newspapers and magazines spoke positively about these resolutions, which combined firmness with principled flexibility. Moreover, the EEC statement indicated for the first time that the PNC resolutions are a positive and not an obstructive factor toward peace.

U.S. Conditions

AD-DUSTUR: What is your comment on the U.S. conditions with regard to recognizing and negotiating with the PLO, since the United States always stipulates the PLO's recognition of Israel and the UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338?

Abu Iyad: I am not surprised that the U.S. policy toward the PLO keeps carrying this blackmail, namely, the recognition of Israel and the UN Security Council Resolution 242. On the contrary, I believe that this blackmail will continue, because the outcome of the U.S. stand is encountered by a weak Arab stand. Therefore, the United States will continue to adhere to this stand and to its intransigent exploitation of this subject to make us recognize Israel or Resolution 242. We fought this resolution because we refused to consider the issue as an issue of refugees. But I want to ask: What does the Arab peace plan contain? It gives freedom to the Security Council to make the necessary peace arrangements for all the states in the region, including the Palestinian state. What does this mean? They want to kill our morale and spirit. They want us to recognize Israel in advance so that Begin can emerge saying that their recognition does not concern him. A U.S. official would then say: Alright, let a cultural attache meet the PLO. This is not the point, the point is the PLO's and the Arab intentions in general to live peacefully. A peace plan is also mentioned in all the resolutions that the Arabs approved, especially the Arab peace plan. This is why I believe that there is blackmail. The U.S. stand will remain intransigent as long as we the Arabs have no dignity in cooperating with the United States. When the United States feels that there is a solid Arab stand, and that there are U.S. interests at risk, the U.S. stand will change, and there is nothing easier than changing this stand.

Two Arab Faces

AD-DUSTUR: In the United States, they say that the Arabs speak two languages: one with their people and another with the U.S. Administration and its officials. What is your comment on this information?

Abu Iyad: In my opinion, this is true and regrettably part of the Arab weakness. Unfortunately, had there been a real and solid Arab stand, the U.S. stand would have changed. Carter told the whole world that no Arab leader spoke with him about a Palestinian state. I think that Carter was telling the truth, otherwise why do they not have respect for us? This is why they impose recognition on us and put conditions. They know that we talk and do nothing. I agree with this.

The Lebanese Situation

AD-DUSTUR: A meeting was held in New Delhi between Yasir 'Arafat and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil. Do you think Lebanon will guarantee the security of the Palestinians residing there, or will the conspiracy — the conspiracy of liquidation — which is being hatched by foreign and Zionist elements continue?

Abu Iyad: First of all, I have confidence in President Amin al-Jumayyil because I know him very well. When President Amin al-Jumayyil says he will give guarantees to the Palestinians, I believe him. The question is: Can Amin al-Jumayyil carry out these guarantees and fulfill his promises? I mean, would the Israelis allow Amin al-Jumayyil to fulfill his promises? This is what I doubt, and I believe that there is an Israeli plan to at least decrease the number of inhabitants in the south [of Lebanon] and also to reduce by the largest possible number the Palestinians in Lebanon; this plan exists. Unfortunately, there are agents linked with the Zionist Israeli plan who are trying to participate in this plan. I believe that President Amin al-Jumayyil is not part of this plan. I hope he will be able to implement the decisions and guarantees which he gave more than once to Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and others. As far as I know, he wants this and is concerned about it. But are the Israelis going to allow him to fulfill his promises and guarantees? I doubt this.

The Palestinian Action

AD-DUSTUR: What are the possibilities of Palestinian action after the departure from Lebanon and the agreement reached with the Lebanese Government?

Abu Iyad: In fact, we did not use Lebanese territory for military action as many say. The difficulties which faced our military action during our presence in Lebanon are — without exaggeration — the same. [sentence as published] The obstacles are the same. On the contrary, now we have a chance [majal] and we are more capable because the details of the daily life in Lebanon do not exist. We are able to think of more successful military action. Fortified borders present obstacles. However, the Palestinian fighter tries to overcome all difficulties so that military action can continue. You know that our people in the occupied territories are carrying out operations which we can only greet and appreciate. Greetings to those heroes. I want to say one thing: We are determined [to carry out] military operations even if it is once in a month, once a week, or once every 2 months. What is important is that the nucleus of armed struggle will not stop unless the Palestinians obtain their rights to their homeland and state. Some people may say that time is not in our favor. But I say that time will never be in favor of the defeatists.

The Exchange of POW's

AD-DUSTUR: In reply to a question on the exchange of POW's between the PLO and the Zionist forces, Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky told me in Washington that he undertook this initiative out of sheer humanitarian motives. We have recently learned that these negotiations have failed, making no tangible progress. What is your comment?

Abu Iyad: We put forward our conditions. At first there was agreement to these conditions which stipulated the release of 1,000 prisoners [from Israeli prisons] and all prisoners in the Ansar camp. We also asked that all the PLO documents and those belonging to the Palestinian heritage in the research center be handed over. There was some sort of preliminary approval to that. Israel asked that five bodies be handed over. In fact, we have no such bodies or at least not in our hands. They tried to create a problem out of this demand. We also added to our demands one calling on Israel to treat the Palestinian prisoners as prisoners of war. We told them if they wanted real negotiations to begin by treating the Palestinians as prisoners of war. However, the main issue is that we have no bodies as Israel claims. Israel is the side which obstructed the exchange of POW's and it is responsible for that.

The Arab Summit

AD-DUSTUR: Do you think it is necessary to hold an Arab summit conference on the Fes resolution to prepare for the conferences [as published] against the Palestinian people in the region?

Abu Iyad: I am for an Arab summit. We agreed that the minimum joint Arab action is the Fes summit. I call for another Arab summit to discuss the other options. At the previous summit we submitted the Arab peace plan, but what was the result? Nothing so far. We visited the capitals of the UN Security Council member states, but what was the result? The U.S. position is clear. The United States did not wish to receive a PLO envoy. How will it then recognize a Palestinian state or the Arab peace plan? Therefore, let us, the Arabs, sit without showmanship or trading with issues and stands. Let us discuss the means of power which we can build step by step so as to change the U.S. stand and change our infrastructure from the military, political, economic, and moral aspects. In my opinion, an Arab summit must be held for these matters and not others.

AD-DUSTUR: Do you think that all or most of the solution cards are in U.S. hands?

Abu Iyad: I think that the cards with which the issue can be solved are in our hands. Once we can remedy the balance of the military, political, and economic powers, we can do everything.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Foreign Ministers To Meet in Riyadh 15 May

GF251616 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 24 Apr 83 p 1

[Text] It was announced officially yesterday that the GCC foreign ministers will meet in Riyadh on 15 May. A spokesman for the UAE Foreign Ministry said the ministry has received an invitation from the GCC Secretariat to attend the 2-day meetings which will discuss new developments in the Arab arena.

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives Jordanian King's Message

GF251325 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Manama, 25 Apr (WAKH) — Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah has received a message from King Husayn of Jordan on the current developments in the Middle East. The message was delivered by Jordanian Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah during his visit today with the amir of Bahrain.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Information Minister Tariq al-Mu'ayyad, and Jordanian Ambassador to Bahrain Ahmad al-Hindawi.

Mr Abu 'Awdah arrived in Manama earlier today within the framework of his tour of a number of region's states, during which he will deliver a message from the Jordanian king to the leaders of the region's states on the recent developments of the Middle East.

Jordanian Minister Departs

GF260731 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0615 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Manama, 26 Apr (WAKH) — Jordanian Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah left Manama for Kuwait this morning following a 1-day visit to Bahrain. During this short visit, the Jordanian minister delivered a letter to Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain, from King Husayn of Jordan, on the current developments in the Middle East.

The Jordanian minister and another envoy, Marwan al-Qasim, are currently on a tour delivering letters from the Jordaninan monarch to the leaders of the Gulf countries and the Arabian Peninsula.

Saudi-Bahraini Talks Begin in Manama 22 April

GF221506 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1420 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Manama, 22 Apr (WAKH) — Saudi-Bahraini talks were held in Manama this afternoon led by the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah and Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation.

On the Bahraini side, the talks were attended by Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah; Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force; Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah; and Minister of Interior Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifa Al Khalifah.

On the Saudi side, the talks were attended by the delegation accompanying Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Saudi Ambassador to Bahrain Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Qadi.

The talks are expected to deal with bilateral relations, the current situation in the region, and bilateral military cooperation.

The amir of Bahrain hosted a luncheon today in honor of Prince Sultan, during which the amir awarded him the Al Khalifah Medallion.

Saudi Minister Departs

GF221800 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Manama, 22 Apr (WAKH) — Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister, defense minister, and inspector general, left Manama this evening following a visit to the State of Bahrain which lasted several hours. He was seen off at the airport by Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force, and a number of senior military and civilian Bahraini officials.

Heavy Oil Slick Expected To Hit Bahrain 27 Apr

GF260603 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 26 Apr 83

[By Mike Holland]

[Excerpt] A large slick of heavy oil is expected to hit Bahrain tomorrow. Oil spill experts on the island are gearing up their operations to fight the slick which yesterday was just 40 km due north of Bahrain.

It was spotted on Sunday 65 kms away from the island but in just one day strong north westerly winds had pushed it 25 km closer to Bahrain.

"We are predicting impact in two days' time, though we are not sure where it will hit yet," said chairman of Bahrain's oil spill action response team Walter Vreeland last night.

Unlike the slick that threatened the island three weeks ago and broke up before impact, this one is of the heavy type.

Previously, the island was threatened by a sheen slick made up of light oil floating on the surface. This time the slick is composed of emulsified oil that has the consistency of tar.

KUWAIT

Jordanian Minister Delivers Message, Departs

LD260857 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0837 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Apr (KUNA) — Jordanian Minister of Information 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah left here today after delivering a message from King Husayn of Jordan to the amir of Kuwait. Nothing is yet known about the contents of the message.

Proceeding of Weekly Cabinet Session Reported

LD241945 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The Cabinet held its weekly session this morning under heir apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah. Cabinet Secretary General 'Abd Al-'Aziz Muhammad Utaybi said that the Cabinet reviewed the outcome of the meeting between the amir and PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali and also a letter to his highness from the Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov in reply to his letter conveyed to Andropov by Foreign Under Secretary Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rashid and which was one of the letters he sent to the leaders of the five permament member states of the Security Council.

The Cabinet was also acquainted with the letter to his highness from the Indian prime minister on the measures that should be taken so as to make the New Delhi Nonaligned Conference's resolutions effective. The Cabinet was also informed of the visit paid by Prime Minister of Bahrain Shaykh Khalifah Ibn Salman al Khalifah at the invitation of the heir apparent and prime minister.

The Cabinet also discussed Arab and international affairs. The Cabinet heard a report in this regard from deputy prime minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Information Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir. The Cabinet was also acquainted with the reports from Kuwaiti embassies abroad. Health Minister al-'Awadi reported on the latest contacts with the countries concerned with combating the oil slick from the Iranian Nowruz oil well. The Cabinet was acquainted with the talks the Mauritanian foreign minister held with Kuwaiti officials during his visit.

Foreign Minister Comments on Shultz Visit

LD252143 Kuwait KUNA in English 1759 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Kuwait, April 25 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir said here Monday he hopes the American secretary of state, George Shultz's visit to the region would achieve a positive result such as withdrawing the Israeli forces from Lebanon.

The success of Shultz's mission will give a good impression on the seriousness of the American policy to solve the Middle East problem, Sabah told reporters.

Shaykh Sabah also regretted the resignation of the Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky after the failure of his party to gain more parliament majority in yesterday's election.

During the meeting between Shaykh Sabah and South Yemeni Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, the two offiials discussed bilateral relations as well as relations between Aden and Oman, he said. Shaykh Sabah was apprently referring to the reconciliation talks between South Yemen and Oman which Kuwait sponsored last year and which culminated in the signing of an agreement normalizing relations between the two sides.

PDRY

Chairman Receives Kuwaiti Amir's Message

GF251331 Doha QNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Aden, 25 Apr (QNA) — PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has received a verbal message from Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, the contents of which have not been revealed. The message was delivered by 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, Kuwaiti minister of state for Cabinet affairs, during his meeting with the PDRY chairman yesterday.

Aden radio reported today that during the meeting, the means to bolster bilateral relations were discussed.

The Kuwaiti minister arrived in Aden on Saturday on a visit to the PDRY, during which he will participate in the Kuwaiti Cultural Week activities which began yesterday.

Jordanian Foreign Minister Arrives 25 April

GF251852 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Brother Marwan al-Qasim, Jordanian foreign minister, arrived in Aden this evening on a short visit to our country during which he will deliver a message to Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, from his Brother King Husayn of Jordan.

In a statement to ANA, Brother Marwan al-Qasim stated that the message deals with the current Middle East situation and the new Arab developments that took place during the past weeks.

He was received on arrival by Brother Mutlaq 'Abdallah Hasan, Central Committee member and secretary of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and Muhammad 'Ali 'Imayah, deputy foreign minister.

'Ali Nasir Receives Ambassador to USSR

GF251612 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received in his office at the Presidium's Secretariat today Salih Abu Bakr ibn Hasanyn, member of the Central Committee and our ambassador to the USSR, who briefed him on the activity of our diplomatic mission in Moscow.

The brother chairman issued the necessary directives to the brother ambassador which will further develop the friendship and cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Fatah Official Arrives, Makes Statement
GF221345 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Saqr Abu Nizar, secretary of the Fatah Revolutionary Council, has praised the PDRY's role and support for the Palestinian Arab people in their just struggle for restoring their legitimate rights, liberating their land, and establishing their independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

This came in a statement Saqr Abu Nizar made to the ADEN NEWS AGENCY, ANA, upon his arrival this morning in Aden on a visit to our country to last several days. Abu Nizar explained that his visit takes place within the framework of bolstering bonds of fraternity and friendship between the Yemeni and Palestinian peoples. He added that he will brief the officials of the PDRY party and state on the recent developments of the Palestinian cause.

Abu Nizar was received at the airport by Brother 'Abbas Zaki, the PLO representative in Aden.

QATAR

Amir Receives Mauritanian Foreign Minister
GF251132 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] His highness the amir, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, has received a written message from Mauritanian President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haidalla on bilateral relations and new developments in the region.

The message was conveyed by Major Ahmed Ould Minnih, Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, when the amir of Qatar received him today.

The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Mauritanian ambassador in Doha Ali Ould (Saghir), and the delegation accompanying the Mauritanian minister. The Mauritanian minister arrived in Doha from Manama last night on a 3-day visit to Qatar.

SAUDI ARABIA

New Information Minister Takes Oath 25 April
GF251108 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Information Minister 'Ali ash-Sha'ir was honored to take his oath before His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz at his majesty's office in the Royal Palace this morning, on the occasion of appointing him as information minister.

The ceremony was attended by Cabinet Secretary General 'Abdallah ibn Sultan.

King Fahd Receives Syrian Foreign Minister
LD251134 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1120 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Apr (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz this afternoon received at the Royal Court Syria's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who is currently visitng the Kingdom. The audience was attended by Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, and minister of state and member of the Council of Ministers Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud.

King Receives Jordanian Minister, Husayn Message
LD241220 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1145 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Apr (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received in his office at 1430 today Jordanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Marwan al-Qasim, who handed his majesty a handwritten message from His Majesty King Husayn, king of Jordan.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, and Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, minister of state and member of the Cabinet.

Reportage on Defense Ministers Visit to Turkey

Talks Begin 24 April
LD241734 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1610 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] Ankara, 24 Apr (SPA) — The first session of Saudi-Turkish talks was held this evening in Ankara under the chairmanship of His Royal Highness Second Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and Aviation Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu. The talks dealt with bilateral relations and means of strengthening them, the Middle East issue, the Iraqi-Iranian war, the Afghan issue, and a number of international issues of common concern.

The talks were attended on the Saudi side by Foreign Under Secretary for Political Afairs ('Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri), head of the Political Department at the Foreign Ministry ('Abbas Ghrawi), and Saudi Ambassador to Turkey Salih as-Suqayr; on the Turkish side by Turkish Foreign Minister Turkmen and Defense Minister Haluk Bayulken. His Royal Highness Prince Sultan arrived in Ankara earlier today.

Dinner Speeches
LD250014 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2230 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] Ankara, 24 Apr (SPA) — Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu gave a dinner this evening in honor of His Royal Highness

Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, who is currently visiting Turkey.

The banquet was attended by the delegation accompanying his highness, and the Turkish foreign and defense ministers.

The Turkish prime minister made a speech after the banquet in which he welcomed His Royal Highness Prince Sultan and affirmed that the ties of fraternity and mutual respect that link the Kingdom and Turkey provide unbounded possibilities for strengthening the cooperation between the two countries. He said that the steps that we will record together in that direction will not only serve the interests of our two countries but will also strengthen the solidarity of the Islamic world.

He noted that there is a great conformity in our stands on regional and international issues. He said that Turkey and the Kingdom wish to establish peace, security, and stability both in the world and in the area in which they live. They do not cease to follow a peaceful and constructive policy toward all the problems.

He added that despite the efforts of our two countries our area has not been able to end the disturbances and clashes and, as a result of the lack of elements of stability, the region has become exposed to external threats and dangers — a matter that calls for greater and greater unity between our two countries. He said: We are facing in our area many developments which have a negative effect. The Turkish prime minister referred to the hostile and expansionist attempts by Israel, which had become a permananet policy, which creates a single problem. He stressed that Turkey continues to stand alongside its Arab and Muslim brothers, especially in the legitimate cause of the Palestinian people. He expressed his regret at the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war. He affirmed that this war exposes the Islamic world to weakness and it also destroys the material and moral resources of the two countries.

Then, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz made a speech in which he expressed thanks and appreciation for the welcome accorded him. He said: We are happy to have the opportunity to make this visit in order to learn firsthand about the great achievements Turkey has made in various fields. What makes this visit more important are the close ties that have been fostered over the years between us and Turkey.

His highness said: Perhaps the most important result of this visit is the opportunity it provides for exchanging views and consultations on various matters and issues that concern our two countries. We are certain that such meetings will help to create common and clear views on those matters and issues. This will benefit our two countries.

His Royal Highness Prince Sultan affirmed that the struggle with the Israeli enemy is a struggle between right and wrong, and right must in the end triumph.

His royal higness said: God willing, the Islamic nation is resolved that it will not hesitate to take all measures and make utmost efforts, whatever the sacrifices, to rescue our Islamic holy shrines. We will not accept a substitute for Jerusalem or for the rights of our Palestinian brothers. His highness explained that Israel is challenging world public opinion by its daily thoughtless behavior and is challenging the feelings of the hundreds of millions of Muslims by flouting the resolutions and appeals of international organizations and the international community. His highness stressed that Israel's challenge and its continuing aggression are the crux of the Palestinian issue. The Palestinian issue is the issue of all those who believe in the right of every people to self-determination through their own free will.

His Royal Highness said that if the Palestinian cause is our first cause the issue of holy Jerusalem in our view is the heart of the Palestine problem.

The Israeli aggressive behavior striving to impose domination on the region is met with a sincere and noble Arab inclination towards peace built on justice and right which leads to the achievement of rights and prevailing peace and stability in the Middle East and the whole world. He said this Arab attitude is based on the peace plan approved by the Arab summit conference in Fes last year. He added that at a time when Arab states and the PLO have done all they could to achieve this peace, Israel with its procrastination over the withdrawal from Lebanon, its refusal to recognize the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people and UN resolutions and its refusal to withdraw from the occupied Arab Palestinian territories occupied in 1967, represents an obstacle to this desired peace.

His Royal Highness Amir Sultan held the international community and the big powers, especially the United States, in its capacity as one of the superpowers, responsible for continued peace and security in the world, responsible for this repeated Israeli aggression in Palestine, the occupied Arab territories and Lebanon, and he urged the U.S. to check Israel.

His royal Highness said that the seriousness of the international situation is further increased when a superpower which has great responsibility for world peace resorts to the method of threatening small nations with force of arms and military invasion. And all the time injustice, aggression and the oppression of Islamic peoples continue. It is the duty of the Islamic governments and the international community to face up to their responsibilities with firmness and effectiveness. His royal highness confirmed that every delay in solving the Afghan problem is at the expense of world peace and the security and the stability of the region.

His royal highness expressed regret at the continuation of the Iraq-Iran conflict and the serious conditions it creates in the two countries the repercussions of which are not limited to them alone, but extend to every Muslim in all Islamic states and the states and the peoples of the region in particular, a matter which makes us look with hope and expectations at all the efforts being exerted to put an end to this conflict, especially those being made by the Islamic good-offices committee. His royal highness said in this context: We look forward to the positive and important role that can be played by Turkey as an Islamic country which feels afflicted by what afflicts the other countries of the Islamic world and as a country concerned with these problems and issues because of its geographical position, its historic role, and Islamic position.

His royal highness in his speech praised Saudi-Turkish relations and expressed the hope that cooperation between the two countries would be consolidated and that there would always be a search for new horizons in the fraternal relations between the two countries.

Shultz' Mideast Tour Needs Further 'Promise'
GF260617 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 26 Apr 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] On the U.S. secretary of state's visit to the Middle East, the newspaper 'UKAZ said: "The U.S. secretary of state's promise to remain in the Middle East region until an agreement is reached in Lebanon needs another complementary and juxtaposed promise: that a form of negotiations on the future of occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, guaranteeing the authentic representation of the Palestinians through the PLO and through the participation of the main parties of the Middle East conflict according to the principles of the Arab peace plan, is reached."

The newspaper expressed the hope that Shultz' visit will propel the peace talks in the region.

The newspaper AN-NADWAH affirmed that the U.S. secretary of state is making this tour while he is uncertain of the results because he knows that the introductions that Washington made — introductions to which Shultz himself has contributed — will certainly obstruct any possible success of that tour according to the U.S. standard. The newspaper called upon the U.S. Government to hold a direct dialogue with the PLO instead of adhering to a policy imposed upon the U.S. Administrations by Zionism, should it want to have a significant and positive role in the region.

YAR

PDRY Foreign Minister Arrives 25 April
GF251850 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, foreign minister in the southern part of the homeland, today arrived on a brief visit to San'a' during which he will convey a message from Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, YSP secretary general, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the Genral People's Congress, dealing with consultations and coordination between the two parts of the homeland and with current Arab issues. He will also hold talks with his counterpart — who received him — dealing with Arab and international issues.

Jordanian Minister Delivers Message, Departs
GF251844 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office at the general command headquarters this afternoon Marwan al-Qasim, Jordanian foreign minister and envoy of His Majesty King Husayn, who delivered a message from his Brother King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan, dealing with bilateral relations and Arab and international issues of common interest. The meeting was attended by Brother 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr, foreign minister.

The Jordanian foreign minister later left San'a' this evening.

In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY on departure, he said he is carrying a reply message from the brother president and secretary general of the General People's Congress to His Majesty King Husayn.

He was seen off at the airport by 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr, foreign minister and member of the standing committee; Ahmad al-Iryani, Foreign Ministry under secretary; a representative for the Foreign Ministry protocol department; and the charge d'affaires at the Jordanian Embassy in San'a'.

'Ali Makes Statement On Shultz' Arrival

NC251256 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1221 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, 25 Apr (MENA) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz arrived in Cairo from Washington this afternoon for a 2-day visit to Egypt on the first leg of his tour of a number of states in the Middle East. Shultz was welcomed at the airport by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Minister of State for Forign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton, and Egypt's ambassador to Washington Ashraf Ghurbal.

Following Shultz' arrival, 'Ali made a statement in which he said: I am happy today to welcome our friend Shultz on his first visit to Egypt in his capacity as the secretary of state. This visit comes at an important time vis-a-vis the peace efforts in the area.

'Ali added: The problems we confront in our efforts to find a permanent solution are many. We believe, however, that regardless of how many and how difficult they may be, it is possible to overcome the obstacles through serious determination and sincere efforts to find a lasting and peaceful solution to the Middle East problem. Therefore, we urge all parties concerned, more than at any time in the past, to join the expanded discussions to find a settlement. I hope very sincerely that Shultz' visit to the area will bolster the chances of achieving the withdrawal of the Israeli and foreign forces from Lebanon. We would thus open the road for the realization of the greatest aim — the achievement of a just and durable settlement in the area.

In conclusion 'Ali expressed hope that Shultz' stay in Cairo will be good and fruitful.

Talks Previewed

NC251608 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1456 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 25 Apr (MENA) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali accompanied U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to the As-Salam Hotel, where the U.S. guest will be staying, and then held a 15-minute meeting with him. This brief meeting was attended on the Egyptian side by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal, and Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid and on the U.S. side by Assistant Secretary of State for Middle Eastern Affairs Nicholas Veliotes and U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton.

President Husni Mubarak will receive George Shultz at 0900 tomorrow, Tuesday. This will be followed by official talks at the Foreign Ministry between the Egyptian and U.S. sides. The Egyptian side will be led by Kamal Hasan 'Ali and the U.S. side by George Shultz. The Egyptian side will include Dr Butrus Ghali, director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, and Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz, Ambassador ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid, Dr Ashraf Ghurbal, Ambassador Ra'uf Ghunaym, and Minister Plenipotentiary Ahmad Abu al-Ghayt. The U.S. side will include Nicholas Veliotes, U.S. envoy to the Middle East Philip Habib, and Alfred Atherton.

The Egyptian-U.S. discussions will center on the Lebanese and Palestinian issues and relations between Egypt and the United States.

It has been learned that during the discussions tomorrow the Egyptian side will emphasize:

1. The importance of the U.S. role in speeding up the Israeli withdrawal from every inch of Lebanese territory so as to give impetus to the process for the establishment of a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East.

2. The Palestinian people's right to self-determination as the key to the solution of the Palestinian issue.

3. The importance of supporting Egypt politically and economically on the grounds of its being the foundation of peace in the area.

Meanwhile, observers have remarked that in his speech welcoming George Shultz, Kamal Hasan 'Ali outlined Egypt's demands from the various parties concerned with the Middle East crisis, called on them to clarify their stands on the talks, and emphasized the importance of a speedy Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. He also said that the visit comes while the peace exforts are passing through a sensitive time.

Shultz Meets With Mubarak

LD260932 Cairo Mena in Arabic 0730 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] [Item intercepted in progress] President Husni Mubarak this morning received the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz at Al-Qubbah Palace.

The Egyptian and American delegations met at Al-Qubbah Palace, as President Mubarak and George Shultz were having their meeting.

On the Egyptian side, the meeting was attended by the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Kamal Hasan 'Ali; the minister of state for foreign affairs, Butrus Ghali; the Egyptian ambassador to the United States, Dr Ashraf Ghurbal; the head of the Presidential Office for Political Affairs, Usamah al-Baz; and the first secretary of the Foreign Ministry.

On the American side, the meeting was attended by the U.S. presidential envoy to the Middle East, Philip Habib; The assistant secretary for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, Nicholas Veliotes; the official in charge of the Middle East desk at the State Department, Richard Fairbanks; and the U.S. ambassador to Egypt, Alfred Atherton.

MENA Notes Draper's Arrival in Cairo 25 April

NC251944 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1925 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 25 Apr (MENA) — Morris Draper, assistant to U.S envoy to the Middle East Philip Habib, arrived in Cairo this evening from Beirut aboard a special plane. It should be recalled that Habib is currently in Cairo.

Source Denies Mubarak Met Palestinian Delegation

NC240941 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0905 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, 24 Apr (MENA) — A responsible Egyptian source has denied a report published in the latest issue of Lebanese weekly ASH-SHIRA' that a high-level Palestinian delegation visited Cairo and met with President Mubarak following his return from his latest trip and that Mubarak criticizedthe delegation because Yasir 'Arafat had hastened to inform Jordan of his definite refusal to authorize it to speak on behalf of the PLO. The paper elaborated on this groundless story. The source affirmed that President Mubarak has not met recently with any high- or low-level Palestinian delegation.

Mubarak Attends Air Defense Forces Practice

NC241623 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] President and Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces Muhammad Husni Mubarak today attended the demonstration of air defense weapons carried out by the Air Defense Forces Command. The demonstration was witnessed by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib, Consultative Council Speaker Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and War Production Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, some deputies to the prime minister, ministers, high-ranking commanders of the Armed Forces, military attaches from European, African, Asian, and some Arab countries, a number of press and news agency correspondents, and local and foreign radio reporters.

The demonstration began with the firing of modern Crotale missiles, which arrived in Egypt last January, at a target towed by a pilotless plane, followed by the firing of modified SAM-7's at targets. The air defense forces also fired 23-mm twin barrel [thuna'i] antiaircraft guns, which have been manufactured in Egypt by Egyptians, at a plane guided by remote control. The last phase of the demonstration included the firing of modified Hawk missiles for the first time at a target towed by a pilotless plane.

The Air Defense Forces commander delivered a speech on the occasion in which he asserted that peace, which was completed by Egypt's regaining its sovereignty over every inch of its territory, has enabled the armed forces to implement its training and armament plan. He said peace must depend on a force capable of deterring any aggression. After the maneuver, President Husni Mubarak told the radio reporter:

[Begin recording] On this day, the day of the celebration of the regaining of the land, I greet from this place the men of the Air Defense Forces, who had made utmost efforts in the October war and who are still vigilantly protecting this country against any foreign aggression. At the same time, on this April anniversary, I greet the soldiers, officers, commanders, and men of the Egyptian Armed Forces, who are the shield and defenders of this country so this country may ensure its security and safety. I greet them on this occasion. Thank you. [end recording]

The president then ordered that the Crotale battalion, and the rest of the battalions that participated in the demonstration, be given a financial reward.

Government Bans Haykal Book on As-Sadat

PM250932 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 20 Apr 83 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Government Confiscates Haykal's Book on As-Sadat and Bans its Publication"]

[Text] A government order has been issued banning the entry of Arab newspapers which serialize Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal's book "Autumn of Fury." The ban also applies to the London SUNDAY TIMES and other papers that serialize the book. Consequently, the ban is on reproducing the book in Egypt and, therefore, AL-AHALI is unable to serialize the book and the newspaper ASH-SHA'B yesterday stopped reproducing it.

The Saudi newspaper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, which is published in London, also stopped serializing the book as of the day before yesterday after publishing several parts of it. The paper ceased publication when the book started dealing with the Saudi role.

AL-AHALI last week began serializing the book, which tells the story of former President Anwar as-Sadat from his birth until his assassination at 1210 on 6 October 1981.

The book discusses the president's childhood and youth, the circumstances that influenced his upbringing, and his behavior during the monarchist era and after the 23 July Revolution. It also discusses As-Sadat's relations with certain Saudi and Arab personalities during the time he was secretary of the Islamic Conference — particularly the circumstances under which he made certain important political decisions, the Saudi role in hisbecoming linked to the United States, and the method that he used to eliminate his opponents.

Last Saturday night, AL-AHALI was informed of the decision to ban the serialization of the book in Egypt and, therefore, to stop publishing the serial as of this issue. After a discussion at the AL-AHALI board of directors, and at the Central Committee and The General Secretariat [of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping party], and after prolonged contacts with the government that lasted until yesterday morning, the government confirmed its decision. The whole matter is now put before public opinion, which has the right to know the truth.

Economy Minister Discusses Trade, Development

NC251705 Cairo MENA in English 1425 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, April 25 (MENA) — Economy Minister Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id said trade relations between Egypt and most of the Arab countries are gradually going back to normal with trade currently flowing without any restrictions between them.

In an interview with MENA today, the minister added that he expected the arrival of Arab trade delegations to Egypt in the

coming period following the visit of the economy officials of Jordan, Yemen, Iraq and Lebanon lately.

On the objectives of President Husni Mubarak's visit to the Far East, the minister said the visit has realised the aspired targets, mainly the increase of loans and economic assistance which Japan offers to Egypt in addition to the opening of foreign trade spheres for Egypt in each of Japan, Korea, China, Indonesia, and Pakistan.

On integration projects between Egypt and Sudan, Dr as-Sa'id said planning is underway for financing the Integration Fund, indicating that part of the funds would be covered by the Egyptian and Sudanese Governments and the other would be raised from the international organisations, such as the World Bank and development funds.

He affirmed that the Integration Fund would play an important role in implementing integration projects between Egypt and the Sudan.

On the impact on the Egyptian economy if presumably the Egyptian workers in Arab countries returned to Egypt following the austerity measures taken by oil countries as a result of the decline in oil prices, the Egyptian minister said these measures would not affect the Egyptians already working in these countries but could affect the rate of increase of Egyptian emigration.

Dr as-Sa'id further said the return of some of the Egyptians working in Arab countries would only affect the foreign currency remittances by these workers, adding that this could not have a serious effect on foreign currency revenues.

Speaking about results of the 1982/83 plan, Dr as-Sa'id said unexpected improvement has been realised in the current transaction deficit in the balance of payments. During the nine months (July 1982 to March 1983), the deficit, which was estimated to reach 1,500 million Egyptian pounds in the nine months period, stood at 800 million pounds only due to the rationalization of imports, the drop in international prices and attempts to increase Egypt's foreign currency revenues.

Dr as-Sa'id went on to say that Egypt's virtual debts are 13.5 billion Egyptian pounds, adding that 70 percent of the loans were received through [words indistinct] with governments, 20 percent of the loans obtained from international financial bodies and 10percent facilities for importers. Dr as-Sa'id said Egypt is attempting to reduce the last king of loans.

On the state-adopted plan to reduce the deficit in the balance of payments and in the general budget, Dr as-Sa'id said the state encourages exports, rationalization of imports and expenditure as well as boosting the earnings of customs and taxation departments.

Furthermore, to realize a balance in the economic structure, the credits policy was directed to the welfare of industry and agriculture rather than to trade as previously.

Concluding, the minister called on the businessmen to invest heavily in agriculture and industry to strengthen the economy, assuring them of the state's full support and encouragement.

Ghali, Kenyan Minister Discuss Regional Issues

NC241636 Cairo MENA in English 1340 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] Cairo, April 24 (MENA) — State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali discussed today with the Kenyan minister of regional development and technologic sciences, the Mideast situation especially the Palestinian cause and the Lebanese crisis.

Dr Ghali expounded during the meeting, the Egyptian diplomatic drive in quest of a settlement to the Palestinian issue and to realise a withdrawal by all foreign forces from Lebanon.

The two officials also discussed conditions in the African Continent, the current crisis within the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and means of overcoming it, to protect the organisation and enable it to resume its conferences.

The meeting further dealt with bilateral ties and the feasibility of developing them in the various spheres.

The Kenyan official had arrived here on Wednesday for a five-day visit to Egypt.

Military Communique: Jets Attack Strategic Targets

JN251726 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,072 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 25 April]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With men competing for heroism, glory, and valor, our Armed Forces continued their acitivities in the operational sectors against the grudge-bearing enemy forces who persist in their evil and aggressive designs. The following are the results for last night and today:

1. At 1748 today a squadron of our daring Air Force attacked startegic military targets deep inside enemy territory, scoring direct and effective hits. All of our fighter planes, praise be to God, returned safely to base after completing successful missions.

2. Our combat patrols last night and early today clashed with two enemy groups in front of our forward positions in the central operational sector. Our patrols succeeded in killing 15 Iranian soldiers, wounding a number of others, and destroying one mortar — killing its crew members — three infantry positions, one stockpile of hardware, and one observation post. Ten enemy soldiers were killed and one vehicle, one infantry position, one stockpile of hardware, and one observation post were destroyed opposite our other units' positions in the same sector.

3. One of our forward units in the Maysan operational sector pounded a number of enemy personnel, killing four and destroying one infantry position and one stockpile of hardware. Our forward units found quantities of medium- and light-caliber weapons and other equipment left behind by the enemy during the glorious battles in the same sector.

4. Three were killed in the northern operational sector.

5. The racist Khomeyniite regime today directed intermittent shelling at Basra and Mandali and their environs as well as the village of At-Tib, damaging several houses in At-Tib.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 April1983

Islamic Committee on Iran's Rejection of Peace

JN231052 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1010 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Apr (INA) — The peace and reconciliation committee has held Iran responsible for the failure of the committee's mission to end the war between Iran and Iraq. In a statement issued today, the committee said Iran's rejection of peace is in itself an act of aggression by Iran against Iraq.

The committee, which was formed in accordance with a resolution adopted by the Islamic popular conference, said this rejection makes the Islamic people and countries dutybound to fight the aggressors. Some 400 Muslim clergymen and leading Muslim intellectuals participated in the conference, which ended here last Sunday. The committee, made up of eight members under Shaykh Dr Ma'ruf ad-Dawalibi, was entrusted to follow up the conference's resolution by holding contacts with the leaders of the two countries to carry out direct negotiations and reach a cease-fire as the first step toward ending the war and settle problems between the two countries.

The committee's statement urged the Iranian people to assume the primary role in ending this vicious aggression. The committee noted with satisfaction Iraq's responses to the conference's attempts and Iraq's resort to peace. This, the committee said, prompted the members to urge Iraq to be the first to cease the propaganda campaign against its foe. The committee said Iraq has complied with this request.

It should be recalled that President Saddam Husayn gave Iraq's prior acceptance of any resolutions that might contribute to the success of the committee's mission. Iraq, on the other hand, declared its readiness to accept a cease-fire and to apply it immediately, provided Iran also complied with the committee's appeal.

The committee dismissed Iran's accusation that from the beginning the conference has been biased in favor of Iraq. The committee pointed out that the conference based its decision on previous Islamic resolutions and freely invited Iranian ulemas to attend. The committee affirmed that the conference made it conditional that the Iranian ulemas should represent Imam Khomeyni, and not his opposition, although the opposition had requested permission to attend the conference. But Iraq, in order to maintain the neutrality of the conference and the suitable atmosphere, did not permit the Iranian opposition to attend.

The committee expressed its regret at Iran's failure to respond to its attempt, adding that it had met three times with the Iranian charge d'affaires in Baghdad, but all these meetings were futile. The committee said that this courteous invitation had completely adverse results when the Iranian charge d'affaires ignored all the leading intellectuals who invited the Iranian ulemas on behalf of the conference.

The committee also expressed regret over the stand of the Iranian media. The committee added that despite this regrettable stand, the committee received the Iranian charge d'affaires for the third time and gave him a letter expressing its desire to go to Tehran to meet with Iranian leaders after Iraq had responded to all of the committee's demands. The committee said the Iranian reply came 2 days after the request was made, accusing the conference of being biased although the invitation from the conference was similar to other invitations issued by previous conferences.

The committee explained that Iran's accusation was based on the fact that the conference had convened in Iraq although the conference did not act as a judge but as a peace advocate in accordance with Iraq's wish. The committee said: That's why Iran declined to receive the delegation, closed its doors in the face of the Islamic call, and rejected making move toward peace and agreeing to the reconciliation attempts.

President Grants Interview on Current Issues
JN231212 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Apr (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today received the well-known Arab journalist Nasir ad-Din an-Nashashibi. President Saddam Husayn touched on various Arab and international issues, the Iraqi-Iranian war, and the outcome of the recent battles in which the brave Iraqi Army recoded glorious feats. The president's interview with An-Nashashibi covered Iraq's position on various current Arab issues, on what has taken place in Lebanon, and on what is taking place in the occupied West Bank.

President Saddam Husayn dealt with the big powers' stand on Iraq's issues, the foremost of which is the ongoing war, with the Western countries' stand on this war, with the Nonaligned Summit Conference, and with relations between Iraq and certain Arab capitals.

During the interview President Saddam Husayn revealed some secrets in regard to the Iraqi position at the outset of the war imposed on it.

The meeting was attended by Khalid 'Abd al-Mun'im Rashid, director of the Presidential Office, and the director of the Presidency's Press and Information Department.

Details of President Saddam Husayn's 2-hour interview will be published in Kuwait's AL-ANBA'.

Tripartite Plenary Session Resumes 25 April

NC251350 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Report by delegation of the Ministry of Information at the Lebanon Beach Hotel in Khaldah — live]

[Text] This is the delegation of the Ministry of Information to the tripartite negotiations speaking to you again from the Lebanon Beach Hotel in Khaldah.

The working lunch ended a short while ago. The negotiators resumed the expanded plenary session of the tripartite negotiations round which is being held at the Lebanon Beach Hotel in Khaldah. It is noteworthy that today's session was devoted to the discussion of points of agreement, points of divergence, and points which are still under study. During the session, the leader of the Lebanese delegation explained that Lebanon is determined to work toward reaching an agreement provided that it is not dangerous and harmful to Lebanon. The delegation expressed the hope that U.S. Secretary of State Shultz will be able to find solutions to the problems which the two sides have not yet managed to solve.

The question which must be asked is: What will Secretary Shultz' visit to the area bring and what will be the extent of its effect on the progress of the current tripartite negotiations,especially in view of his assertion while on his way to the area that his mission is to mediate between Lebanon and Israel so as to reach an agreement on arrangements guaranteeing the withdrawal of foreign forces from all Lebanese territories.

Finally, we are waiting to see what the results of today's negotiations session will be. We will provide you with these results immediately after the conclusion of the expanded plenary session which is still in progress.

33d Round Ends

NC251619 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1543 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Report by delegation of Lebanese Ministry of Information at theLebanon Beach Hotel in Khaldah — live]

[Text] This is the Ministry of Information delegation speaking to you again from the Lebanon Beach Hotel in Khaldah, where the 33d round of the tripartite negotiations was held today. It appears that today's round has ended. We are waiting for the official spokesman of the Lebanese delegation, Dr Dawud as-Sayigh, to tell us about the results of today's negotiations.

[Correspondent] Is it possible for you, Dr as-Sayigh, to brief us on the atmosphere of the negotiations and the results of today's round?

[As-Sayigh] The draft general agreement was discussed at today's meetings in a way that depicted the points of agreement and disagreement. A large number of the draft's provisions have been approved. The security issues, which were dealt with during this afternoon's meetings and which were the subject of disagreement last week, were raised again today. It is possible to say that some difficulties have been overcome. Earlier in the morning, Ambassador Fattal stressed that in its adoption of the various stands, the Lebanese delegation is reflecting the ideas of His Excellency President Amin al-Jumayyil to the effect that while Lebanon wants an agreement, it is also determined that this should not harm it or constitute a danger ot it.

In view of Secretary Shultz' visit to the area, no other meetings will be held this week. A meeting will be held at the beginning of next week, according to developments.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Dr as-Sayigh. This was the official information which the official spokesman of the Lebanese delegation, Dr Dawud as-Sayigh, gave regarding the results of today's meetings. This is the delegation of the Ministry of Information to the tripartite negotiations speaking to you from Khaldah. Now back to our studios in Beirut.

Source Excludes Early Agreement with Israel

NC251556 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] A high-level Lebanese diplomatic source has ruled out the possibility of reaching a radical solution during Secretary Shultz' visit to the area. The source said: There are obstacles precluding an agreement. However, Shultz' presence will accelerate the negotaitions and speed up an agreement.

He added: The obstacles include the internal differences in Israel affecting the negotiations. The source further said: Shultz will seek to implement the U.S. Administration's commitments to Lebanon regarding the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanese territory.

'Collusion' in U.S. Embassy Bombing Feared

NC251509 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] With regard to the removal of the rubble at the U.S. Embassy, the body of Husayn Muhammad Haydar has been recovered. The rescue squads had earlier found the mutilated body of Nabih 'Abd al-Karim Rahhal. The embassy building is being reinforced to enable the rescue squads to continue their work. It is believed that there are people [as heard] in the embassy garage.

A meeting was held before noon today in the office of Military Prosecutor General Jamil Bayram in the presence of the committee of Lebanese military experts charged with inspecting the embassy building to determine specifically how the explosion occurred. The Voice of Lebanon has learned that the experts are gathering the remainder of the cars that were destroyed to send them to Washington for inspection by U.S. military experts to obtain adequate information about the incident.

According to information available to the Voice of Lebanon, a search is now underway for a security official who vanished a short while before the explosion. It has been ascertained that the

explosion was aimed at a meeting that a number of leading U.S. intelligence officials in the Middle East were holding. It is feared that collusion existed between elements within the embassy and quarters affiliated with the intelligence of a state.

VOL Says Detonator Found

NC260803 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The lifting of the rubble at the American Embassy is now into its second week and the number of victims has risen to more than 60. Work is proceeding slowly pending the reinforcement of the building for fear of collapse because of cracks in the basic columns.

A team of U.S. architects will arrive in Beirut later to carry out a close inspection of the building because it has been discovered that the explosion has caused the structure to lean to some extent.

With regard to the judicial investigation, the military public prosecution has brought a case against persons unknown in the bombing crime. It has referred the case to the military prosecutor, who has heard the testimonies of some witnesses. A recent investigation has revealed collusion between a security official of the embassy and the intelligence service of a state. Furthermore, the competent organs have found the detonator that exploded the device. Also the arm of a man has been found at sea. It is believed to be the arm of the driver of the car used by the culprit. We mention at this point that the recovered car parts will be sent to the United States for inspection by the competent organs.

Al-Jumayyil Receives Delegation From South

NC252150 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] The question of the south and its concerns were reviewed at a meeting today between President Amin al-Jumayyil and a 50-member delegation from the south representing the various areas of the south and the various sectors of life there.

President al-Jumayyil today received at his home in Sinn al-Fil a delegation of the Lebanese vigor grouping [tajammu' al-'unfuwan al-lubnani] in the south led by lawyer Muhammad 'Asi. The delegation submitted a note to the president that included the demands which it considers necessary to secure the minimum limit of the prerequisites of steadfastness in the south. The delegation presented a symbolic gift to the president. It is a sword on which is engraved: Your Excellency the President, the southerners are a loyal sword for the protection of Lebanon, all Lebanon.

At the meeting, the southerners felt that they were with one of their own, and with a brother who shares their concerns and sufferings, and who lives their pain hoping that the south will return to all Lebanon, and that Lebanon will return all the Lebanese.

The southern delegation came to express its adherence to its state, identity, and Lebanese affiliation and also to express the extent of its attachment to the head of state and adherence to the efforts he is exerting to restore Lebanese dignity and vigor. During the meeting between President al-Jumayyil and the southern citizens, the southerners made their voice heard directly in front of the president. They felt for the first time that the first and highest quarter in the country knows their problems well, and that he is preparing useful and radical solutions to them.

This spontaneous meeting assumed all its dimensions following the statements which President al-Jumayyil addressed to the Lebanese people through the press and in which he clearly announced that he will not permit the south being turned into another Golan, Gaza, or West Bank.

Franjiyah Visits Syria, Meets With Al-Asad

NC251416 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah arrived in Damascus this morning for an official visit. Immediately upon his arrival in the Syrian capital, he met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. This meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, the Minister for Presidential Affairs; Faruq ash-Shar', Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; and Deputy Dr 'Abdallah ar-Rasi, who accompanied [former] President Franjiyah to Damascus.

Upon his arrival in the Syrian capital, Franjiyah made a statement to SANA in which he said:

My visit to Syria is every time considered as a kind of political pilgrimage. Usually, people go on pilgrimage to holy places. When we do not see His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and the noble Syrian people for a long period, we feel the presence of pain in our country.

With regard to present events on the Lebanese scene, President Franjiyah said: So long as the enemy is in our sacred land, and so long as the enemy desecrates this land, the whole world is dark in my eyes. If we ever give the enemy as much as an inch [of territory] through the negotiations underway between Lebanon and the Zionist entity, we will have lost the present and the future. This is particularly true because we are negotiating with our enemy — and he wants nothing for us other than ruination, evil,and destruction.

With regard to the Israeli threats against Syria, President Franjiyah said: Let Israel try its luck this time. This round is different from the past rounds in view of the readiness and preparations which sisterly Syria enjoys to defend our nation's rights and to repulse aggression.

President Franjiyah had left Zgharta this morning by helicopter. As we have said, he was accompanied by Deputy Dr 'Abdallah ar-Rasi.

Foiled 'Arafat Assassination Plot Revealed

NC251303 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Diplomatic sources have told the Voice of Lebanon that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat escaped from an assassination attempt about 2 months ago when his special security outfit laid hands on plans for an attempt to assassinate him in Tunis.

These sources said that those who masterminded this operation belong to a rejectionist Palestinian quarter. These masterminds cooperated with Arab intelligence services [ahjizati mukhabaratin 'arabiyah].

'Arafat's security outfit apprehended four armed Palestinians who arrived in Tunis with forged passports to implement the task.

It was learned today from a responsible source in Tunis that the Fatah Movement's Central Committee has announced its support for the resumption of the Palestinian-Jordanian talks which ceased on 10 April.

IDF Moves in Sidon, Exercises in Al-Biqa' Noted

NC260737 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] At the security level, there were intensive Israeli vehicular movements yesterday in Sidon toward the mountain and Beirut. Many Israeli vehicles carrying personnel and tanks passed through the city's streets.

An Internal Security Forces' report indicates that at 2100 yesterday the Israeli Forces combed the area extending from As-Sayyidah Nafisah crossroads up to Al-Bawwabah al-Fawqah in Sidon after a handgrenade was hurled at an Israeli vehicle.

In Ash-Shuf, an Internal Security Forces' report says that a clash broke out from 1600 to 1800 yesterday between the townships of Wadi ibn Hlay and Al-Jahiliyah. The clash stopped at night.

In Al-Biqa', the Israeli Forces installed barbed wire along the front between Kamid al-Lawz and Al-Mansurah. This area is regarded as a buffer zone between the Israelis and the Syrians. Syrian soldiers have been seen building emplacements and fortifications.

In the plain extending from Al-Muhaysah to Mdukha, the Israelis carried out a night maneuver with live ammunition, in which armored vehicles and artillery took part. Thirty Israeli armored vehicles arrived at the front in the morning.

Israeli warplanes continued their military exercises over the southern areas and southern Al-Biqa'.

Security sources have denied reports about the establishment of an Israeli military airfield in the western Al-Biqa'.

Press on Objectives of Shultz' Mideast Mission

NC260903 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Press review]

[Excerpts] In its political analysis, the newspaper AN-NAHAR asks whether Secretary Shultz will succeed in achieving progress in the tripartite negotiations for an agreement. The paper says:

There is no doubt that drawing up an agreement on achieving a timetable for withdrawals is the key to a solution, and without it he negotiations will remain deadlocked. The achievement of withdrawals from Lebanon, AN-NAHAR says, will revive the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue and will encourage King Husayn to join the negotiations,relying upon the U.S. credibility which has been confirmed in Lebanon and successfully passed the test. The achievement of withdrawals will consequently open the door for holding successful talks with Syria to bring about similar withdrawals. This is the minimum expected from Secretary Shultz' tour.

On the same subject AL-LIWA' says: With the beginning of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's visit to the area, this week witnesses the implementation phase of the U.S. decision to support Lebanon in the field, now that the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations have reached a critical phase, and following the U.S.-Israeli concern generated by the presence of Soviet experts in some parts of Lebanon and the flow of sophisticated Soviet arms to Syria.

AL-BAYRAQ says: The U.S. Secretary of State's visit to Lebanon and the area comes 2 days after President al-Jumayyil's clear and sound statements to the Press Syndicate Council that Shultz' mission should be confined to seeking to overcome the deadlock. Shultz is coming to save Habib's mission which encountered difficult obstacles. He is here to save U.S. President Ronald Reagan's plan which also encountered difficult obstacles.

In its editorial, AS-SAFIR asks whether the main purpose of the U.S. secretary of state's first visit to the area is to speed up the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations and bring about an agreement between the two sides, or whether it is to confront the so-called Soviet return to the area? The paper answers by saying that the two objectives complement one another. The achievement of a Lebanese-Israeli agreement will support U.S. credibility and will allow Washington to firmly tackle the area's crisis. This link is true in theory, but there are basic problems preventing its achievement in practice, including the Israeli problem.

ASH-SHARQ says it does not expect much from Shultz' tour.

SADA LUBNAN says that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' mission will not be an easy one due to the Israeli inflexibility, but it will not be impossible because Washington — which has renewed its commitments to Lebanon — cannot but use all means of convincing Israel to give up its conditions and demands.

Damascus Reports Israeli Military Movements

JN260615 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Beirut — The Israeli forces continued their reinforcements and concentrations along the contact lines with the Syrian forces operating within the Arab Deterrent Forces. The Israeli forces also expanded the establishment of military installations in the area in preparation for a military adventure against Syria.

Beirut reports said yesterday that the Israeli forces began work on a third airfield in western Al-Biqa' and on a port on the coast at Al-Jiyah. An airfield in 'Ayn Zhalta is about to be completed after the first airfield was built in Ad-Damur.

News reports said that, during the past few days, the Zionist forces transferred heavy tanks and 155-mm self-propelled guns to the areas of Sawfar and Al-Baruk, under the pretext of replacing forces in the area. Yesterday the enemy forces deployed 15 (Serva) tanks at the Ash-Shuwayfat-Khaldah crossroads.

Informed political circles emphasized that these Zionist military concentrations in southern Lebanon and the Golan Heights, as well as the atmosphere of military and political escalation in the area, indicate that a Zionist aggression against Syria and the Palestinian forces is imminent.

KUNA: Military Spokesman Quoted

LD261109 Kuwait KUNA in English 1054 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] Damascus, April 26 (KUNA) — Syria announced Tuesday that its forces in the central Lebanese Al-Biqa' valley have opened fire at an Israeli force which advanced toward Syrian lines.

A Syrian military spokesman, furthermore, said the Israelis have massed 60 sophisticated tanks in the western sector of the Al-Biqa' valley which is under their occupation. The Israeli tanks, according to the Syrian military spokesman, are also backed by armored personnel carriers and 75 armored vehicles loaded with ammunition.

Syrian soldiers of the "Arab Deterrent Force," according to the Syrian military spokesman, have also massed an undisclosed number of Soviet-made T-72 tanks along the eastern sector of the Al-Biqa' valley jointly controlled by Syrian soldiers and forces of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

The spokesman said the Israelis have erected "four rows of barbed wire" seperating the forwardmost positions in the western Al-Biqa' from the confrontation lines manned by Syrian ADF soldiers and PLO forces. The Syrian announcement followed reports of mounting tension in the Al-Biqa' valley.

Reports from Beirut, the Lebanese capital, said the Israeli occupation forces were seen pushing reinforcements to the Al-Biqa' area across the occupied southern Lebanese region.

The Syrian [word indistinct], on their part, have also fortified their positions in the Al-Biqa' with men and equipment.

A reliable source in Damascus said Syrian bulldozers were seen digging emplacements for tanks and artillery pieces across the eastern sector of the Al-Biqa'.

Damascus Report

JN261125 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] A military spokesman has made the following statement:

At 1130 today, 26 April 1983, an enemy bulldozer, protected by a personnel carrier, advanced 500 meters into the buffer zone in front of the As-Sa'luk checkpoint in Al-Biqa' and began constructing fortifications. Our forces opened fire on the enemy vehicles and forced them to withdraw.

Damascus Radio Cites TASS on Israeli Buildup

JN251606 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] The tense situation in Lebanon's Al-Biqa' continues to perturb world political and press circles. TASS today reports that the Israeli forces have stepped up tension in Al-Biqa' as Tel Aviv continues to mass troops in and send additional war materiel to the area. TASS says that the enemy forces have deployed a large number of tanks on the outskirts of Al-Birah and Ar-Rafid. TASS notes that the influx of Israeli reinforcements is concomitant with the increasing enemy overflights of Lebanon and Al-Biqa'.

Monte Carlo: Syria Ready To Receive Shultz, Others

JN251412 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Knowledgeable sources in Damascus have stated that Syria is ready to receive any U.S. envoy, including Secretary of State Shultz, to emphasize its tenacious position toward the region's crisis. It has been reported that the U.S. secretary of state might possibly visit Damascus to discuss the withdrawal of the Syrian forces from Lebanon.

Papers on Shultz, Withdrawals

JN251754 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Telephone dispatch by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris — recorded]

[Text] The Syrian dailies today link U.S. Secretary of State Shultz' visit to the region with U.S. statements on the promised U.S. peace that preceded the present tour. The Syrian dailies note that the statements coincide with reports on U.S. naval presence in the Mediterranean, and Israeli buildup along the contact lines with the Syrian forces. The papers conclude that the United States is determined to impose its peace by force, and will resort to carrying out the upcoming aggression under the pretext of establishing peace.

According to the dailies, the U.S. secretary intends to implement an aggressive plan on partial withdrawals. They affirm that Syria refuses to accept any comparison between the presence of its troops in Lebanon to that of the Israeli troops, and refuses to withdraw before the last Israeli soldier has withdrawn from Lebanon.

It is worth mentioning, however, that despite the dailies' hardline, knowledgeable circles have told our radio that Syria is not against the principle of receiving any official or envoy who wants to submit proposals about the region's crisis. Accordingly, Damascus will be willing to receive Secretary Shultz and listen to him, but this should in no way be understood that Damascus is trying to enhance its declared position on the various issues of the hour.

Some observers have linked the sudden visit to Saudi Arabia by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam with the U.S. secretary of state's Middle East tour. The speculation is that Syria is seeking to anticipate events and to brief the Saudi officials on the situation prior to Shultz' arrival in the Kingdom in an attempt to insure sound coordination between the two countries.

Former Lebanese President Arrives 25 April

JN251246 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad at 1200 today received former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for presidential affairs; Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs; and Lebanese Deputy Dr 'Abdallah ar-Rasi.

Franjiyah arrived in Damascus at 1100 today on a visit to Syria.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Franjiyah said: Every visit I pay to Syria is considered some sort of political pilgrimage. Usually, people go on pilgrimages to holy places. When we are away from President Hafiz al-Asad and the generous Syrian people for a long time, we feel pain in our country.

On what is taking place in the Lebanese arena, Franjiyah said: As long as the enemy defiles our land, the whole world is black. If we give one single inch to the enemy, through the negotiations currently taking place between Lebanon and the Zionist entity, we will lose this world and the everlasting abode, since the one with which we are negotiating is our enemy, which harbors evil and destruction toward us.

On the Zionist threats against Syria, Franjiyah said: Let Israel try its luck this time, because this round will be different from the previous ones due to Syria's readiness and preparedness to defend our nation's rights and repulse aggression.

Meetings With Al-Asad

JN251820 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad gave a banquet in honor of [Former] President Franjiyah. The banquet was attened by Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad, minister of information; 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for presidential affairs; Muhammad Ghabbash, minister of supply and internal trade; Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs; and Dr 'Abdallah ar-Rasi, a Lebanese deputy.

At 1530 today the president met President Franjiyah for the second time. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm; Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad; 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi; Muhammad Ghabbash; Faruq ash-Shar'; and Lebanese Deputy Dr 'Abdallah ar-Rasi.

President Hafiz al-Asad welcomed President Franjiyah to Damascus, and praised his nationalist position. President Franjiyah thanked Syria for its efforts and for bearing all the burden in confronting the Israeli aggression. The two meetings dealt with developments in the region and all aspects of and possible developments in the situation in Lebanon. The two exchanged views on the need to prevent Israel from gaining from its aggression against Lebanon. They also affirmed the need to assist Lebanon in confronting Israeli attempts to harm Lebanese soveiegnty and Lebanese, Syrian, and Arab security.

President Hafiz al-Asad affirmed that Syria supports Lebanon, as it has always done, and supports every Lebanese effort to remove the Israeli occupiers from Lebanese territory.

Franjiyah Departs

JN252036 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah left Damascus this evening. He was seen off by 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for presidential affairs; and Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs.

Iraqi, Syrian Communist Parties Issue Statement

JN251520 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1345 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Damascus, 25 Apr (SANA) — The Syrian and Iraqi Communist Parties have praised Syria's steadfastness, its stand on the imperialist and Zionist threats and schemes, and the consolidation of its alliance with the USSR.

In a joint statement, the two parties stressed that Syria's steadfastness obstructs the completion of Israel's expansionist

designs against Lebanon, the liquidation of the Palestinian cause, and hampers the implementation of the aggression strategy of U.S. imperialism.

The two parties expressed confidence in Syria's steadfastness and its firm confrontation of the Israeli schemes and acts of aggression being concocted by imperialist and reactionary quarters to weaken Syria and force it to give in to pressure, force, and political blackmail.

In a joint statement issued at the end of a recent meeting, the Syrian and Iraqi Communist Parties said that Syria's course of steadfastness, the consolidation of its alliance with the USSR and the Socialist Bloc, and its confrontation of the imperialist maneuvers and schemes will make it capable of confronting and averting the threats to which it is being exposed.

The two parties explained that Syria's dependence on the people and their determination to struggle, and the preparation of the masses for the battles of construction, play an important role in Syria's steadfastness.

The two parties expressed their firm belief that the consolidation of the Progressive National Front's political and organizational role, and the broadening of the activity of the progressive parties within this front on the popular level, would definitely strengthen the domestic front and protect Syria from the threats of aggression, the encroachments of imperialism, and the conspiracies of the reactionaries.

The two communist parties strongly denounced the imperialist schemes and plans to impose capitulatory solutions on the region and stressed that these plans and schemes would not achieve peace and security.

The two parties also stated that the attainment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region requires foiling Reagan's plan, escalating the struggle to achieve the immediate withdrawal of the Israeli forces of invasion and occupation from all the occupied Arab territories, and settling the Palestinian cause on the basis of the acknowledgment of the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable rights, including their right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of their national independent state.

The two parties explained that the attempt to focus on the withdrawal of the Syrian and Palestinian forces from Al-Biqa' is an excuse to prolong the Israeli occupation of Lebanon. They denounced the deceptive calls for a simultaneous withdrawal of the Israeli forces and the Syrian Arab forces from Lebanon.

The statement stressed that the treacherous Israeli aggression against Lebanon, the Palestinian revolution, and Syria has not dampened the spirit of steadfastness and confrontation.

In this respect, they referred to the escalation of the armed struggle against the Israeli invaders in Lebanon and the popular upheaval in the occupied Arab territories.

The statement also strongly denounced attempts to authorize Jordan to negotiate on behalf of the Palestinian people and to cancel the PLO's role. The statement added that these attempts failed and that Reagan's plan, and the maneuvers to liquidate the Palestinian cause, have been defeated.

The two parties stressed that the PLO has proved its militant capability by rejecting Reagan's plan, supporting the USSR plan, the Fes summit resolutions, and its reaffirmation of the importance of the strategic relationship with Syria, given that the latter is the forward line of confrontation against the common enemy.

In their joint statement, the Syrian and Iraqi Communist Parties referred to the manifestations of deterioration in the Arab situation and denounced the alliance among Baghdad, Cairo, Amman, and Khartoum and the persistent efforts to remove Husni Mubarak's regime from its isolation, to justify the treacherous Camp David deal, and to restore relations with the Egyptian regime in violation of the Baghdad summit resolutions.

The two parties strongly condemned the war which the dictatorship in Baghdad is waging against Iran, the political course of the Baghdad regime, which is bargaining with imperialism and has mortgaged Iraq's economy to the monopolies of the capitalist countries, its overt joining of the Camp David camp, its participation in the suspect settlement deals, and its call for negotiations and peace with Israel in support of Jordan and Reagan's plan.

The two parties added that this treacherous policy of the Baghdad regime is accompanied by acts of hostility, conspiracies, and sabotage against Syria, Libya, the PDRY, and the Palestinian revolution, the strengthening of cooperation with the Egyptian regime and the Camp David parties, and the justification of the course of treason against the national and pan-Arab interests.

The two parties said that had it not been for the war the Iraqi regime is waging against Iran, Israel would not have ventured to carry out its aggression against Lebanon, the Palestinian revolution, and the Syrian Arab forces, and would not have succeeded in pursuing its occupation of Lebanon and threatening to attack Syria.

The Syrian and Iraqi Communist Parties held the ruling clique in Iraq fully responsible for removing Iraq from the arena of struggle with the Israeli enemy and paralyzing Iranian support for the Palestinian people's struggle.

The Syrian Communist Party expressed support for the stands of the Iraqi Communist Party and the parties within the Iraqi Democratic National and Patriotic Front and the Iraqi opposition forces. The two parties praised the principled and constant stands of the USSR and the Socialist Bloc in support of the struggle of the Arab people, their rights and just causes, and for all the peoples who are struggling to achieve liberation and independence.

The two parties warned against the dangers of a comprehensive nuclear war as a result of the imperialist-Zionist aggression against the Arab liberation movement, the disruption of the policy of detente and peaceful coexistence, the deployment of new U.S. missiles in Europe, the U.S. military presence on Arab land, and the formation of rapid deployment forces.

The two parties concluded their statement by stressing that the Arab people's struggle against the Israeli aggression and the encroachments of imperialism is an indivisible part of the struggle of the world at large to achieve peace and to avert a comprehensive nuclear war.

Syrian, Bulgarian Societies Issue Statement

JN251850 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] A statement issued today on the visit to Bulgaria by the Syrian-Bulgarian Friendship Society delegation reflects the twodelegations' satisfaction at the existing relations between Bulgaria and Syria, and the bases that were established by President Hafiz al-Asad and Chairman of the Bulgarian State Council Todor Zhivkov.

The statement vehemently condemns Israel's aggression against Lebanon and its barbaric practices and mass extermination of the Palestinian people in the occupied homeland. The statement also condemns all the projected capitulatory plans as being an attempt to revitalize the despicable Camp David course which is consistent with U.S.-Israeli strategy.

The Syrian-Bulgarian Friendship Society delegation signed a 1983-84 cooperation protocol during the visit.

IDF Fired Upon From Syrian Area in Lebanon

TA261151 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1145 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] A burst of light weapons fire and an unidentified shell were directed at an IDF position in the area of 'Ammiq village this morning from the Syrian-controlled area. No one was hurt and the fire was not returned.

Our correspondent says similar incidents occur from time to time. He also notes that non-Syrian forces, such as terrorists and volunteers from various countries, are found within the Syrian lines.

Peace Talks Continue As Shultz Arrives

Al-Jumayyil Statement Causes Conflict

TA251204 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Report from Khaldah by Me'ir Einstein]

[Text] Today in Khaldah the last round of talks is being held before U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz enters the game. Shultz's arrival is already creating changes and, at this point, a change in the timetable. The negotiating sessions which were supposed to be held tomorrow in Khaldah, and on Wednesday and Thursday in Netanya, have been canceled because of Shultz's arrival in the region.

The Lebanese are pinning considerable hope on Shultz. Beirut newspapers this morning wrote that Shultz' arrival heralds possible U.S. pressure on Israel regarding all the matters connected with the negotiations. A similar hope — in a more diplomatic form — was expressed at this morning's plenary session by Lebanese delegation head Antoine Fattal. He said that Lebanon hopes Shultz will succeed in finding solutions to the problems still in dispute between Israel and Lebanon.

Israeli delegation head David Kimche also welcomed Shultz's arrival, and said he hoped that the U.S. secretary of state would succeed in advancing the contacts. Answering Lebanese reporters' questions, Kimche reemphasized that Israel wants to reach an agreement as soon as possible. At this morning's plenary session, Kimche raised for discussion President Amin al-Jumayyil's harsh remarks that he would prefer not to sign an agreement with Israel in order to preserve Lebanon's rights.

Yosi 'Amihud, the Israeli delegation's spokesman, said:

[Begin 'Amihud recording] Today we rejected all the accusations that the president made in Beirut during a press conference. We reexplained that we want an independent and sovereign Lebanon, and what we are now trying to achieve is that even after Israel withdraws from Lebanon, Lebanon will continue to exist as a sovereign and independent state, not controlled by terrorist organizations or other forces. Meanwhile, our goal is preserving Israel's security. [end recording]

In reaction, Fattal said that Al-Jumayyil's remarks were made with respect to all the problems in the Arab world, and mainly the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. The spokesman of the Lebanese delegation, Dr Dawud as-Sayigh, cited the statements made by Fattal, who went on to say that Lebanon wants to reach an agreement on the condition that it neither endangers it nor infringes on its sovereignty. Fattal stressed that Lebanon wants to reach an agreement and there is no need to regard Al-Jumayyil's statements as an obstacle to continuing the negotiations.

Lebanese delegation sources have described today's talks as decisive. But it is hard to believe that the delegations will relax their positions just as Shultz, in the role of savior, is supposed to break the deadlock now besetting the talks.

More on 25 April Talks

TA251530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] At today's talks in Khaldah there were preparations for Secretary of State Shultz' visit, and now they are texting an interim conclusion [sikum] there. Me'ir Einstein reports from Kahdalh.

[Einstein] To mark Shultz' arrival in the area, people in Khaldah are today busy composing a list of all the clauses that have been discussed since the negotiations began 4 months ago. With the conclusion of this process which is, in fact, a reminder of the sides' positions on the various issues, it will be possible to get a precise picture of the talks between Israel and Lebanon. The Americans initiated this discussion with the aim of presenting Secretary of State Shultz with a detailed, precise document acceptable to all sides, and this document contains the disputed points still remaining between Israel and Lebanon.

However, before they made themselves free for the discussion in honor of Shultz, the Israeli delegation head, David Kimche, managed to protest to the Lebanese — and this is already an almost routine protest — about the fact that Lebanese merchants who dealt with Israel have been arrested and Israeli goods found in the possession of Lebanese merchants have been confiscated. Kimche said that these actions were a violation of the status quo on this issue. The Lebanese said: We will examine the matters. And this answer, too, has already been given in the past.

Today's discussions began with a private meeting between Kimche and Fattal, at which the pair discussed the remarks by President Amin al-Jumayyil that aroused anger in Israel. Afterward, at the plenary session, Kimche rejected Al-Jumayyil's attacks, saying that Israel was interested in an independent, sovereign Lebanon, but not at the expense of Israel's security. Fattal explained: Al- Jumayyil said what he said as a reference to the general problems in the Arab world and it is true that Lebanon aims at reaching an agreement that will not damage its sovereignty.

Shultz To Arrive in Jerusalem For Talks 27 April

TA252016 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Secretary of State Shultz is to come to Israel on Wednesday, 27 April, in the morning, and he will at once meet with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. In the afternoon he will hold his first meeting with the prime minister and in the evening will be Minister Shamir's guest at a formal dinner. On Thursday, 28 April, he will meet with the prime minister again and depart for Beirut. He will return to Jerusalem and on Friday, 29 April, he will continue his talks with the prime minister and the foreign minister. During his visit to Jerusalem, Shultz will decide whether to continue the shuttle trip between Jerusalem and Beirut.

Our political correspondent Yoram Ronen reports that the direct talks between Israel and Lebanon in Khaldah and Netanya will only be resumed after Shultz' visit. In Jerusalem it is thought that Shultz will put pressure on Israel to make its position on Major Haddad more flexible.

More on Shultz Itinerary

TA260734 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will come to Israel tomorrow, and three meetings with Prime Minister Menahem Begin have already been set for him. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that Secretary Shultz asked that not many persons participate in the meetings, and that the first one be a private one between himself and Begin. During his visit, the U.S. secretary of state will also meet several times with his counterpart Yitzhaq Shamir and with Defense Minister Moshe Arens.

Labor Party leaders will hold a luncheon in his honor on Friday. On Thursday and Saturday, Secretary Shultz will visit Beirut, but he will return each time to spend the night in Jerusalem.

MA'ARIV Examines Shultz Visit

TA251359 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 25 Apr 83 p 5

[Commentary by Shmu'el Segev: "Shultz' Chances"]

[Text] When the plane of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz lands at Ben-Gurion Airport he will meet an Israel which is doubtful about U.S. ability to achieve a breakthrough in the Lebanese crisis, and to lay the basis for the renewal of the autonomy talks in the foreseeable future. The Israeli doubtfulness does not stem from underrating Shultz'personality or U.S. importance, but from a sober view of the situation prevalent in our region today.

Since President Reagan declared his principles for the Middle East settlement on 1 September 1982, it has become increasingly clear that the United States is again moving "too slowly and too late." The 8 months that have elapsed since the release of the Reagan plan enabled Syria to rehabilitate itself militarily, enabled the PLO to rehabilitate itself politically, and enabled the Soviet Union to strengthen its positions in Syria. Moreover, even President Reagan's wise comment that the PLO'S importance was exaggerated, and that the Arab countries (namely Jordan and its allies) should therefore bypass this obstacle and enter negotiations with Israel without 'Arafat's "green light," came way too late.

During all the last 8 months the United States did its best to signal to the PLO to seek the "redeeming formula" that will make its incorporation in the negotiations with Israel possible. If the United States has taken advantage of the shock given to the PLO and Syria in the first month of fighting, and if it had conditioned its aid for the evacuation of the terrorists' leaders from West Beirut on giving the go-ahead to King Husayn to join the peace process, the state of affairs in the region today may have been completely different.

In actual fact the United States repeated the "exercise" of Henry Kissinger at the end of the Yom Kippur war when he compelled Israel to lift the siege from the Third Egyptian Army, thus paving the road toward negotiations on disengagement agreements conducted under his aegis. This "exercise" later served as a basis for a U.S. political theory that "only when the Arabs are spared humiliating defeat and allowed to have an honorable way out, is it possible to conduct fruitful negotiations with them."

However, the U.S. was mistaken in the Lebanon crisis, just as Israel was mistaken at the time with regard to its retaliation policy vis-a-vis Egypt. When the IDF carried out its large-scale raid on Gaza on 28 February 1955 (the "Black Arrow" campaign), that was after a series of many successful retaliatory operations on the Jordanian border. The then chief of staff, the late Moshe Dayan, wanted to apply the policy of retaliation to the Gaza Strip too automatically. However, some elements in the IDF'S General Headquarters and in the intelligence community warned that "Egypt is not Jordan," and that therefore one should treat it with respect and not as if it were "another small and backward Arab country." Dayan ignored the warnings of his advisers and only many years later drew the correct lesson from this, when he held the peace negotiations with As-Sadat, showed respect for As-Sadat, and emphasized Egypt's uniqueness in the Arab world.

The same holds true regarding the United States. At the peak of the Lebanese crisis President Reagan and his advisers failed to understand that "the PLO is not Egypt," nor even Jordan. Instead of taking advantage of the shock of the military defeat, especially after it transpired that Israel was unable to reap the political fruits of the Lebanese war, and to push Jordan into negotiations with Israel, the U.S. President harnessed the PLO to Husayn's coach and thus left the negotiations cart deep in the mud.

To President Reagan's credit it should be said that his comment about "the exaggeration of the PLO'S strength" is a sort of acknowledging of the mistake he made a few months ago. It is doubtful whether this comment will now attain its objective.

Since the terrorist leaders left West Beirut unscathed, they regained recognition of their status by all Arab countries, including Jordan, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. The PLO's status in the

international arena was not harmed but strengthened. Despite its weakened control over the Palestinian population in the territories, its "psychological" influence in Judaea and Samaria is still strong.

Therefore, if there is any blessing in George Shultz' visit to the region this week, then this is inherent in his ability to sense for himself the changes that have taken place in the Middle East countries over the last 8 months. Even if for understandable reasons Shultz will try, as best as he can, to achieve a breakthrough in the "Lebanese crisis", the success or failure of the visit will not be measured according to his ability to solve the problem of Major Sa'd Haddad's status in the area. This issue can be resolved by lower levels as well. The success of his visit will be measured according to his ability to gather updated, first-hand information about the condition of the regional countries, and to consolidate new ideas as to how to inject life into the peace process which has been deadlocked for more than 2 years now. The continuation of the situation of "no peace and no war" will not only produce new tensions, such as that prevailing on the Syrian border nowadays, but may also gradually push Egypt into the confrontation front with Israel.

Sharon on U.S. Policy, Lebanon, West Bank

TA252109 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon has said that the United States is clearly and continuously trying to stop Israel from obtaining full achievements in the negotiations with Lebanon. In his opinion, the Americans are doing this in order to create a link between Lebanon and Judaea and Samaria. They believe that if they succeed in proving to King Husayn that concessions can be imposed upon Israel, he will join the negotiating procsss with the understanding that the Americans will impose security concessions on Israel in Judaea and Samaria, too.

Minister Sharon has disclosed that in contacts with Lebanese leaders held many months before the Peace for Galilee campaign, he explained to them that Israel would demand [tidrosh] special security arrangements in southern Lebanon. The Americans also knew, even then, the details of the arrangements.

Sharon has said that, with the help of Major Haddad, Israel established a widespread security system in the south. The handing over of that system to the Lebanese Army would cause it to collapse. He has revealed that in the attacks against the IDF that have occurred in Lebanon recently, soldiers from the Lebanese Army also participated, beside the terrorists.

Minister Ari'el Sharon was speaking at a Herut activists' congress in Tiberias.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that he bitterly attacked the Alignment members, who, according to him, were destroying Israel's right to defend itself. In his criticism he said that they were making disgraceful use of the victims who fell in Lebanon.

Our correspondent comments that Minister Sharon was received with great enthusiasm by those present at the congress.

Arens Defends West Bank Settlement Policies

TA260900 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English
25 Apr 83

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens told a special Knesset session today that Israeli settlement in the heart of the West Bank is a strategic necessity and is neither an obstacle to Jordanian participation in the peace process nor an action which closes off future negotiating options.

Answering an Alignment motion for the agenda regarding the inauguration of the Berakha settlement near Nabulus, Prof. Arens said that settlement at the site is of "primary strategic importance. Along with Qadum and Elon More, Berakha forms a strategic triangle in a strategic part of the land of Israel. No one can deny this," he said.

It cannot be argued that such settlement prevents Jordan from joining the negotiations, Arens said. "I need not remind anyone that in the period when there was no Jewish settlement in the area, and when Jewish settlements there were destroyed, Jordan did not join the talks. It was no easier then for them to do so." Neither was it easier for Jordan to negotiate during the period of Alignment West Bank policy, Arens said. Moreover, he said, "there are those who say that it is precisely settlement in Judaea and Samaria which is the only incentive which will bring Jordan to the negotiating table."

Settlement in all areas of the West Bank will not foreclose options and "leave nothing to talk about" in negotiations, Arens said, adding: "I heard Israelis who reached the U.S. during my term as ambassador creating the impression that Jews form 49 percent of the West Bank population, will in a few months exceed 50 percent, and thus will leave nothing to talk about. In fact the Jews are only 3 percent of the total population there. It is doubtful whether those who argue that such a Jewish presence is an obstacle to peace, that it leaves nothing to negotiate, and that it prevents Jordan from joining talks are really speaking seriously about peace. I cannot accept the Alignment position that settlement near Jerusalem, in the Jordan Valley, the 'Ezyon bloc, and the southern Gaza Strip does not close any options, but when we go 15 kms north we have closed an option. We have closed no option; we are contributing to the security of the State of Israel and its population. This is the government's policy."

He said "the situation in Judaea and Samaria will never revert to the way it was under Jordanian rule, i.e., that Jews will not be able to live there. I would be surprised if there are many here who are interested in such a situation." Arens said that though he had heard the argument that it was not good for Jews to live near Arabs, he was hearing "for the first time that the very Jewish presence was a provocation of the Arab population. I cannot accept this, and I think that any Jewish or Arab Israeli citizen would reject this theory. There were such theories regarding

Jewish settlement on this side of the Green Line. Jewish-Arab coexistence is preferable to segregation, Arens maintained.

"When an examination is made where more progress has been made toward that coexistence, it will be found that precisely in places where Jews and Arabs live together, greater progress has been made," he said. Arens cited figures from the last election which he said showed less Arab voting for the communist party in mixed areas such as Haifa, as compared with totally Arab communities such as Nazareth. "There can be no clearer proof of the social and political benefits of coexistence as opposed to segregation," Arens asserted.

Arens also rejected charges which he said he had heard from Israelis visiting the U.S. that Israel was evicting the Arab population from its land. "These representatives who claimed to speak for a large sector of the Israeli political spectrum could not even elect one member of Knesset, which means that they are less than 1 percent of the Israeli population."

Arens concluded his remarks by agreeing to hold a Knesset debate on the Berakha settlement issue "since there are MK'S who are interested in speaking about the right to settle in other areas of Judaea and Samaria." The motion was carried by the votes of the coalition and opposition.

Discusses Settlement Near Nabulus

TA251100 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Report on 25 April special Knesset session called by Labor Party on civilianizing the Har Berakha settlement -- read by announcer]

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens thinks that the settlement on Har Berakha, near Nabulus, has great importance because it is the vertex of a strategic triangle in Eretz Yisra'el. As he sees it, cooperation will develop in those places where Jews settle beside Arabs.

Arens rejected the argument that the settlements political process. He cited statements he had heard in the United States that it just may be that the settlements are an incentive to Jordan joining the negotiations.

Arens was speaking in answer to a motion by Alignment MK Ya'aqov Tzur. MK Tzur said that the conversion of the presettlement at Har Berakha into a civilian settlement was a strong provocation to the Arabs. In his view, the government wanted to signal King Husayn that there is nothing left to talk about and that its goal is annexation. MK Tzur thinks that this annexation is the source of corruption and damnation, and will inevitably lead to radicalization.

Our correspondent Tzvi Yisra'eli reports that it was decided by a majority vote to transfer the matter for discussion to a Knesset plenum.

West Bank Poisoning Probe Results Announced

Sickness Caused by 'Fear'

TA251745 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Right now two news conferences are being held at the same time — in Washington and Jerusalem — involving the conclusion [sikum] of the investigation into the affair of the poisonings in Judaea and Samaria. A team of investigators from the United States is issuing, at the same time, in both the capitals, the results of the investigation. Our correspondent on health affairs Elihu Ben-On is in the broadcasting van at Bet Agron, here in Jerusalem.

[Ben-On] As stated, there are parallel news conferences in the two capitals and the clear conclusion is that there was no poisoning. The U.S. Center of Disease Control, which is attached to the U.S. Department of Health, sent two experts who spent 2 weeks here,and afterward they took some of their samples to the United States.Today, as stated, they are together publishing the findings, and in their findings they say: The sickness, which is serious, was caused by fear [harada]. Let us hear what is being said by Ministry of Health Director General Prof Barukh Modan in a live broadcast from Bet Agron:

[Modan] The conclusion of the experts' team from the United States, after a prolonged and scrupulous examination, including an epidemiological examination in the field and blood tests, environmental samples, and so on is as follows:

Our conclusion is that this epidemic of a serious illness was caused by fear. It may have been caused by psychological factors in the beginning or by exposure, under the level of poisoning, to hydrogen sulfate. After that, its development was by psychogenic factors [gormim psychogenim]. In other words, the report confirms the Ministry of Health that there was no poisoning in the field.

There is a question of mass phenomenon here, which may have begun with a chance exposure of several girls in 'Ardah to a smell of hydrogen sulfate and it spread in three waves via Janin to 'Anabta, Yattah, and the Hebron area by psychological processes which are known in similar phenomena described in other countries in the world at large. From the viewpoint of the Ministry of Health, the issue was already closed about 2 weeks ago. I am happy that it has now been determined finally abroad, too.

[Ben-On] Prof Barukh Modan, the director general of the Ministry of Health, says: The issue is closed, we have received the confirmation of the most important institution in the United States and the entire world that there was no poisoning in Judaea and Samaria, and, as stated, this was a question of a matter of fear. Scores of correspondents and foreign television crews from the world are now filming Professor Modan's words and within the next hour these remarks will be sent via satellite to the United States and the entire world. The conclusion is somewhat late, but there was a most scrupulous examination that went over all the

details, and hundreds of people were examined by the team ofinvestigators — a female and male doctor from the United States.— and, as stated, the clear conclusions are that there was only fear; there was no poisoning. They also say that the press and radio reports, among other things — so it is written in the report — may have caused this phenomenon to spread. Neither did they find any evidence of disturbance to the fertility of the sick. As stated, these are the first conclusions in a direct broadcast from Bet Agron.

More on Ministry Statement

TA251837 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Now the mass poisonings. A team of U.S. experts has confirmed Israeli findings that there was no mass poisonings in Janin last month. This news was released in Washington and the Jerusalem press conference givenby Dr Barukh Modan, director general of the Israel Health Ministry. Jerry Cheslow was there.

[Cheslow] The report distributed at the press conference in Jerusalem a short while ago confirmed that the epidemic of supposed poisoning was basically psychogenic. That's a nice way of saying mass hysteria. The U.S. Center for Disease Control experts performed a series of tests on some of the 943 cases which came into hospitals last month in the towns of Janin, 'Anabta, Yattah, and Hebron. They found a long list of symptoms, including headaches, dizziness, blurred vision,and abdominal pains. They also evaluated possible toxins in the air, soil, dust, and water. The only possible cause found at the first school affected in Yattah was a low level of hydrogen sulfide gas around a latrine. The U.S. team, however, said that it found no signs of malingering. There had been charges by Israeli officials that many of the cases were fabricated to cause panic. Professor Modan described how he believed the first phase of the four-phase epidemic began.

[Begin Modan recording] This was the phase that could have been triggered by the irritant smell that came most probably from a latrine which is very close to one of the classes — to some of the classes — and, as far as we know now, the rainy year that we had now and lot of water that was there could have contributed to the fact that this happened now and not before. The second phase, or phase 1-b, was subsequently after the school break where the epidemic became more or less contagious, because some girls told the others about the gas that they, or the smell that they were exposed to or they felt, and this started a chain of events. After a later period of 4 days [interrupted] [end recording]

[Cheslow] Professor Modan did not believe that there was an international witchhunt for the Israeli medical community. However, he did say that there was an attempt by some parties to use the incident against Israel.

Prime Minister Begin Invited to Romania

TA260540 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The prime minister has been invited to visit Romania. The official invitation from President Ceausescu was delivered to Mr Begin by the emissary who secretly visited Jerusalem a few days ago.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the prime minister answered that he is still waiting for a return visit by President Ceausescu to Israel following his visit to Romania some 5 years ago. Our correspondent adds that the Hungarian delegation that visited Israel several days ago was headed by the governor of the state bank. The delegation also met with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

Hungarian Representatives Pay Secret Visit

TA251007 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 25 Apr 83 pp 1, 15

[Report by Yitzhaq Dish]

[Text] A special delegation from Hungary recently visited Israel and conducted talks on economic and financial issues. A blackout was imposed on the visit of the delegation and the details of its talks here. Hungary does not maintain diplomatic relations with Israel, and economic relations have also been greatly restricted since the 6-Day war.

The members of the Hungarian delegation met with Industry and Commerce Minister Gid'on Pat, the governor of Israel's Bank Dr Moshe Mandelbaum, and additional senior officials, but no official confirmation was given to these meetings due to the blackout imposed on them. The meaning of the contacts is being studied in the senior echelons.

Despite the absence of normal relations between Israel and Hungary, very limited-scale commercial relations are maintained. In 1982, Israeli exports to Hungary totaled $4.5 million, and imports from Hungary totaled $8.1 million. In 1981, the exports stood at $5.1 million while imports stood at $8.4 million. The exports included medicine, juices, canned goods, and pesticides. The imports included metals and their products, as well as chemicals.

The scope of the commercial relations between the East European countries and Israel is less than 1 percent of the overall foreign trade of Israel. Prior to the 6-Day war, the scope reached 4-5 percent of all foreign trade. There is no trade with the Soviet Union at all (except for personal imports, whose significance is marginal). There is no trade with Czechoslovakia or Poland either. Trade with Bulgaria amounted to $9 million worth of exports in 1981. The exports include pesticides and juices, and the imports include metals and chemicals. In 1981, exports to Yugoslavia stood at $26 million and so did imports from this country. Exports include citrus fruits, thread and fabric, chemical products, and fertilizers and cotton, while imports include wood products (especially cases for citrus fruit), metals, and skins. There is no final data of the foreign trade with these countries for 1982, but so far it seems that the level of commerce will be maintained.

With Romania, Israel has correct diplomatic and economic relations. In 1982, exports to Romania amounted to $26 million, while imports were $50 million. The exports include phosphates, pesticides and citrus fruit, while imports include processed wood,

metals, prepared food products, chemicals and glass. Recently Israel has not bought meat from Romania (due to the decline in meat production there and cheaper alternatives on other markets).

Last week an economic delegation arrived in Israel from Romania, and according to its proposal the joint Israeli-Romanian economic delegation is going to convene in August in Bucharest. The Israeli delegation will be led by Industry and Commerce Minister Gid'on Pat.

Moda'i Wants Foreign Aid for Nuclear Reactor

TA251214 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 25 Apr 83 p 2

[Report by economic correspondent Ze'ev Struminsky]

[Text] There is ground for hope that Israel will receive aid from foreign elements in building the nuclear reactor for the production of electricity. The number of sources capable of helping in this sphere is relatively large, and it may be assumed that Israel's efforts to obtain technological aid abroad will be crowned with success. Energy Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i said this in a talk with the DAVAR correspondent.

Moda'i was referring to yesterday's Cabinet decision to favor, in principle, the establishment of electricty-producing nuclear power plants. Minister Moda'i said that despite the hope for the future, for the time being Israel cannot purchase a nuclear reactor locally and cannot develop such a reactor on its own yet. This explains the importance of the need to get foreign aid for this project.

Israel will nevertheless maintain the option to develop the nuclear reactor by itself. This option is given expression in the decision by the Cabinet which states that the energy minister will set up a directorate for planning the reactor in coordination with Science and Development Minister Yuval Ne'eman. Due to the uncertainty on the issue of foreign aid,and due to the complexity of planning a nuclear power plant, it will transpire only in 2 or 3 years which kind of nuclear reactor Israel will be able to build, according to Moda'i. He noted that the investment in the nuclear reactor amounts to only 15 percent of the total investment in the nuclear power plant.

Lake Chad Basin Commission Summit Reported

Shagari, Kountche Remarks

AB221144 Lagos NAN in English 1120 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Lagos, April 22 (NAN) — President Shehu Shagari yesterday in Lagos said that an active support and promotion of the activities of the Lake Chad Basin Commission would help boost the economies of member-states.

In an address at the fourth summit of the commission, President Shagari noted that this was necessary because of the commissions programmes of enhancing rural productivity, boosting agricultural development and providing employment and better standards of living for the people. President Shagari called on member nations to pool their resources and to undertake meaningful projects which would be more difficult for a member-state to undertake single-handedly. He stressed the need for the transportation of the commission into an effective machinery for the strengthening of cooperation among the peoples of the states.

President Shagari commended the progress so far made by the commission since its inception in May 1974 and expressed the hope that its 1982 to 1986 plan of action would provide a compressive guideline for the effective development of land and water resources in the sub-region.

In his remarks, the president of Niger Republic, Col Senyi Kountche, stressed the need for closer cooperation among member-states in order to achieve the objectives of the commission. He also emphasised the need for qualified manpower and proper support to enable them to discharge their duties.

Also present at the meeting were President Paul Biya of Cameroon, and Hissein Habre of Chad.

Report on Summit Communique

AB230642 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] The fourth summit of the Lake Chad Basin Commission ended in Lagos today. The working session of the summit was presided over by President Shehu Shagari, the new chairman of the commission. The heads of state examined the development situation of the organization since 1977. In a communique they reaffirmed their wish to strengthen cooperation within the commission. They recommended a true policy of socioeconomic integration through a common and coherent development program leading to the attainment of food self-sufficiency in the conventional zone. To this end the summit took note of the commission's new action plan for the years 1982 to 86.

The heads of state instructed the commissions to pursue studies of evaluation, development, and equitable utilization of water resources of the basin for the intensification and coordination of rinderpest control.

A committee of financial and technical experts should also be set up to evaluate the running and investments costs of the commission. The heads of state requested an acceleration of procedures on the ratification of the joint agreement of regulation of fauna and flora signed in Enugu in 1977.

They decided to institutionalize the commission's conference of heads of state to be held every 3 years, approved the creation of a statutory post for financial comptroller and executive secretariat and maintenance of the the deputy executive secretary at his post.

The conference was held in a cordial and brotherly atmosphere and in the spirit of solidarity characteristic of all the meetings of the organization.

It was attended by President Paul Biya of Cameroon, President Seyni Kountche of the Republic of Niger, and Mr Hissein Habre of the Republic of Chad.

The next summit is to be held in Ndjamena, the Republic of Chad in 1985.

ALGERIA

GDR's Kleiber Signs Cooperation Agreement

LD212319 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1943 GMT 21 Apr 83

[Text] Algiers, 21 Apr (ADN) — A delegation led by Gunther Kleiber, candidate member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of general and agricultural engineering and vehicle construction, ended its 4-day economic talks in Algeria on Thursday. Gunther Kleiber and Salim Saadi, member of the Central Committee of the FLN party and minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, signed an agreed text setting out the guidelines for the continuation and deepening of cooperation.

On the last day of the visit, Gunther Kleiber met Abderrahman Belaid, of the Central Committee of the FLN party and deputy president of the National Assembly, for a friendly meeting.

In the talks, Kleiber and Belaid stressed that the standpoints of both countries on the basic issues of international events are identical or very close. They agreed to make every effort to push through a consistent policy of detente, peace, and disarmament. Both sides regard closer cooperation between socialist and non-aligned states to be necessary in order to thwart the policy of confrontation of U.S. imperialism.

Gunther Kleiber stressed that the joint work of all peace-loving forces in the world is the order of the day. He also expressed high regard for the level of relations between the GDR and Algeria and affirmed his desire to develop cooperation to mutual advantage in all sectors. He added that in the strengthening of bilateral relations the GDR sees an effective contribution to the joint anti-imperialist struggle.

Abderrahman Belaid said that Algeria shared concern about increased international tension. He affirmed his country's desire to continue to make an active contribution to securing world peace and cooperation between states and peoples.

During his stay in Algeria, Guenther Kleiber held a series of talks and meetings with representatives of the Algerian government on the further development of cooperation between the two countries. The delegation started its journey home on Thursday.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Arrives 23 Apr

LD231436 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Mr Beji Caid es-Sebsi, member of the Political Bureau of the Socialist Party and minister of foreign affairs in the Republic of Tunisia, arrived in Algiers this morning on a visit within the framework of the Algerian-Tunisian joint committee. He was received at Houari Boumedienne International Airport by Brother M'hamed Hadj Yala, member of the Political Bureau and minister of interior, and the ambassadors of the two countries. Mr Caid es-Sebsi pointed out in a short statement to the national press that the most prominent pillars of the committee's mission are supporting and reinforcing the existing cooperation and finding new means for this cooperation in the various fields.

It is known that the Algerian-Tunisian joint committee was established immediately after the visit President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party, made to Tunisia last (?month).

Joint Commission Meeting Ends

LD250133 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 24 APR 83

[Text] The Tunisian-Algerian joint commission ended its work tonight in Algiers with the signing of seven cooperation agreements and a protocol. They were signed by Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi, Algerian Interior Minister M'hamed Hadj Yala, the governors of the Algeria and the Tunisian National Banks and the directors of the two countries' treasuries. The agreements include a framework for industrial cooperation, a consular agreement, two financial agreements, and three agreements concerning joint industrial projects. Foreign Minister es-Sebsi left Algiers this evening for home accompanied by the Tunisian delegation.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives CAR Head of State

LD231855 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1515 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Tripoli, 23 April (JANA) — The brother commander of the revolution this morning received Andre-Dieudonne Kolingba, head of state of the Central African Republic, in the presence of Brigadier General Abu Bakr Yúnis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab armed forces.

Kolingba Statement

LD231905 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 23 Apr 83

[Text] Tripoli 23 Apr (JANA) — Andre-Dieudonne Kolingba, head of state of the Central African Republic, and the accompanying delegation, left Tripoli today at noon.

He was seen off by Brigadier General Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, Commander in Chief of the Libyan Armed Forces; brother members of the general people's committee; officers of the armed forces; and some Arab and foreign diplomats in the Jamahiriyah.

Andre-Dieudonne Kolingba gave a statement to a JANA correspondent praising the results of his visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He said that the visit has established new pillars supporting the existing cooperation relations between the Libyan Arab people and the people of the Central African Republic. Head of state Kolingba expressed the admiration of the people of the Central African Republic to the Libyan Arab people for the achievements attained in every field by the Great 1 September Revolution.

Tripoli on Brazil Incident, U.S. Latin Policy

LD241721 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] The Libyan planes which stopped over in Brazil on their way to Nicaragua across the ocean have been the topic of worldwide attention at a time when the imperialist circles are exploiting the situation within the framework of a policy which aims to blockade the revolution in Latin America on the pretext of preventing the communist tide from spreading in the region. The U.S. stance is so characterized that it can be described as being "greatly concerned" about the Jamahiriyah's continuous support for the people of Nicaragua or for the peoples struggling for freedom, peace, and progress, that U.S. President Reagan is using all his diplomatic and information media to attack the unswerving principled stances of the people of the Jamahiriyah who pledged in the historic declaration which proclaimed the people's authority on 2 March 1977 to defend freedom in their land and any part of the world and to render help to all those struggling for freedom, peace, and progress.

The Reagan administration found the opportunity ripe. It is now trying, as they say, to strike while the iron is hot, to pressure the U.S. House of Representative to obtain absolute support for its colonialist policy in Latin America and secure larger volumes of assistance and aid to the fascist regimes in the continent. They want to assert the U.S. presence and control in response to what the U.S. circles usually call the national and strategic interests of the United States.

It has been reported that next Wednesday Reagan will deliver a speech to Congress in which he will try to exploit the question of the Libyan planes and, in an exaggerated manner, to publicize the so-called increasing threat to Central America and his allegation that the planes carried weapons for the rebels of El Salvador.

Reagan had already requested aid for El Salvador estimated at about $100 million but the Foreign Relations Committee reduced the amount to $40 million. This constitutes a setback for the policy of the U.S. Administration towards Central America. Reagan showed his displeasure with such (?rejection).

While the Reagan administration is endeavoring to exploit the incident during the stopover of the four Libyan planes in Brazil in order to consolidate its U.S. policy in some form, it has embarked on resisting every quarter which endeavors to liberate the peoples and to deliver them from U.S. hegemony. The peoples of Latin America have become through experience and geographical position among those who know best the intentions and orientation of the Reagan policy. Therefore the sphere of revolution and rejection of a U.S. presence was bound to spread regardless of the excuses for its presence.

JANA Comments on Brazil Incident

LD250835 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0750 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Tripoli, 25 Apr (JANA) — It has been learned from the Brazilian capital that the Libyan aircraft which stopped over in Brazil en route to Nicaragua with the Jamahiriyah people's aid to the Nicaraguan people, who are fighting imperialist American threats to their freedom, were searched yesterday evening and that the search took place as a result of flagrant CIA interference and influence.

According to informed sources the search took place at a time when an American aircraft arrived in Brazil carrying a number of American officials and CIA men.

News agencies report that the search was carried out by Brazilian military under strict control and that the Brazilian soldiers surrounded the Libyan aircraft from all sides while some aircraft flew over the scene of the search as if it were a battlefield.

According to reports from Brasilia the CIA men and U.S. Embassy staff in Brazil conducted suspicious direct contacts with the Brazilian officials during the operation.

MOROCCO

Negotiations With Polisario Rejected

LD221321 Rabat MAP in English 1227 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Text] Rabat, April 22 (MAP) — At the initiative of King Hassan II of Morocco, the 18th summit meeting of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) held in Nairobi in June 1981, decided the organizing of a referendum in the "Western" Sahara. The decision was unanimously adopted by heads of state, and a committee entrusted with implementing the decision was formed, authorized sources from the Moroccan Ministry of State for Foreign Affairs recalled on Thursday.

The same sources added that the implementation committee had held two important meetings during which it fixed the modalities of implementing the resolution unanimously adopted by the 18th summit. The modalities were based on the two following elements:

-The establishment of a cease-fire,

-The organizing and carrying out of the self-determination referendum in "Western" Sahara.

During its second meeting held in Nairobi on February 8 and 9, 1982, the committee fixed the practical modalities to start the process, pointed out the Moroccan sources, adding that Morocco has always shown its readiness to implement the committee's modalities in view of carrying out the 18th summit resolution.

However, went on the Moroccan authorized sources, this process is subjected since February 1982 to destructive attempts aimed at making it less and less operational, and therefore at preventing the implementation of the resolution adopted by the OAU.

Desirous to see this problem last forever, some milieux did not hesitate to misinterpret the implementation committee's decisions. In fact, contrary to these milieux' claims according to which the so-called "Polisario" is the party with which Morocco must negotiate the cease-fire, this issue was clearly debated by the summit as well as by the implementation committee, and neither the so-called "Polisario" nor the so-called "SDAR"

(Saharan Democratic Arab Republic) were considered as a "party", further stated the Moroccan sources, specifying that all attempts aimed at imposing this thesis were rejected by the summit as well as by the committee.

The Moroccan sources then recalled that the so-called "Polisario" has always been contested as having any representativity of the authentic natives of the "Western" Sahara. Ten organizations representing the populations of this territory had addressed the OAU wisemen committee in Freetown and the United Nations 4th commission to explain the irregular character of the "Polisario" and the prevalence of foreign elements to "Western" Sahara in its composition.

Besides, the Moroccan sources added, the first paragraph of the decision on the cease-fire adopted by the implementation committee during its meeting of February 8-9, 1982, is thus worded:

"A complete cease-fire will go into effect at a date that will be fixed by the implementation committee, upon the advice of its chairman and after consultation with all concerned parties".

To ensure a maximum success to its efforts in favour of peace and to thwart any manoeuvers likely to hinder the re-establishment of peace in north-west Africa, the committee decided, as stipulated by Paragraph 12 of its decision on the cease-fire, to call on neighboring states to cooperate with it in order to implement the cease-fire modalities, said the same sources.

They then specified that Morocco highly appreciates the interest that peace-loving forces grant to the situation prevailing on north-west Africa, and considers that only the stances which support the implementation committee's decision are likely to promote peace in the region.

Morocco which will not renounce the adopted decision is willing to see it implemented as soon as possible to put an end to the artificial tension that has already lasted too long, the authorized sources pointed out before concluding that Morocco will, by no means accept that the so-called "Polisario" or the so-called "SDAR" be an interlocutor or a party in negotiation.

SUDAN

SUNA: Five Attempts on Al-Qadhdhafi

JN251602 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Tripoli, Libya, 25 Apr (SUNA) — Informed sources in Tripoli told SUNA that Libya's Colonel al-Qadhdhafi was the target of five assassination attempts between October 1982 and January 1983. The source said that the assassination attempts by Libyan Army officers have made Al-Qadhdhafi lose confidence in the Army and he has began mistreating it in preparation for disbanding it.

The October 1982 attempt came after his return from Sabratah where he chaired the meeting of the Fifth Conference of Revolutionary Committees. In Banghazi, on his way to Tripoli,Al-Qadhdhafi was the target of an assassination attempt by several Army officers. Fire was opened on him, and a guard, Fathi 'Aqilah, was hit several times but Al-Qadhdhafi escaped.

The second assassination attempt took place in November 1982 while he was distributing farm title deeds to members of the Revolutionary Committees in Qar Yunis University. The attempt was engineered by the commander of the shock troops in the region. The third attempt took place in the same month but was discovered before it was carried out and 40 officers stationed at Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir Base in Tobruk were executed in the Jabal al-Akhdar Barracks.

The fourth attempt was discovered on 17 December 1982. Several Libyan Army officers, including Colonel Maylud ar-Rahibi, an Air Force officer and one of the officials in charge of the internal security forces [jaysh al-mudun] were accused of the attempt. Extensive investigations were carried out and included former Justice Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Hayri, several civilians, and military men, mostly Air Force. The fifth attempt took place on 4 January 1983 and was carried out by Colonel Maylud ar-Rahibi; Colonel Sulayman Faraj al-Hafiri; 'Ali Karmus; and Lieutenant Nadi as-Salamani. All of them were in the Air Force and were in charge of mobilizing the cities after the disbanding of the Libyan Army. Al-Qadhdhafi has been planning for some time to give the revolutionary committees the duties of the Army in the cities.

The assassination attempts were carried out by officers on whom Al-Qadhdhafi relied to implement his criminal schemes.

Military Unit Returns from Iraq 25 April

EA260849 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] The first unit of the Sudanese armed peace force returned home today from fraternal Iraq after performing its national task during this critical stage of working for peace and protecting fraternal Iraq's international borders, defending it — and in so doing defending Arab rights in that region — with sacrifices to achieve the peace mission called for by the Sudanese Government and people.

The Sudanese armed peace force unit was met on arrival by chief of operations Major General Tawfiq Salih (Abu Kabok), senior officers of the People's Armed Forces, officers,and other ranks.

The chief of operations congratulated the unit on returning blessed with victories, saying it had set a good example to Sudanese soldiers who care for their nation and greater homeland. He stressed that Sudan and its armed forces will always remain loyal to their international and regional commitments in defense of right, justice, and peace in all parts of the world. He said the armed peace force will remain on the Iraqi-Iranian front until peace is achieved.

WESTERN SAHARA

Envoy to West Africa on OAU Attendance

AB222146 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 22 Apr 83

[Excerpts] The SDAR ambassador to Benin was received this morning in audience in Lome by President Gnassingbe Eyadema. Ahmed el Haiba, who is also the Polisario representative in West Africa, brought a letter from Mohamed Abdelaziz, the SDAR president and the secretary general of Polisario, to President Eyadema. At the end of the audience, the SDAR diplomat disclosed to the press that he discussed with the head of state current developments in the situation in northwest Africa, especially in the SDAR.

[Begin recording] [Question] The last meeting between Algeria and Morocco provoked, I should say, some sort of rapproachment between the SDAR and Libya. Does this rapproachment demonstrate some sort of coldness or a lack of confidence in the relations between the SDAR and the Algerian Republic?

[Answer] I think that there is a wave of foreign propaganda, especially from the West, which continues to sow confusion in the relations between our country, the SDAR, and our allies in the region, particularly Algeria and Libya. There is quite a lot of propaganda aimed at falsifying the facts in the region. Attempts are even made to consider the conflict as between Morocco and Algeria, which is not the case. The conflict is between Morocco and the SDAR. There is only one way to solve that problem, which is direct negotiations between the two warring parties, that is the Polisario and Morocco.

[Question] Concerning Morocco, the Moroccan foreign affairs minister announced yesterday that Morocco will never enter into any negotiations with the Polisario or the SDAR as an interested party. Considering this, what do you think of the peace process in the region?

[Answer] I can tell you that the SDAR remains the essential, major factor of stability and equilibrum in the northwestern part of Africa. The Saharan people have only one legitimate representative, which is the Polisario and the SDAR. Without negotiations between the SDAR and Morocco, I do not think any solution can be found, and for us the war continues at all levels — diplomatic, political, and military levels. We are well prepared to wage that liberation struggle.

[Question] The SDAR has announced that it will participate in the June summit meeting of the OAU at the organization's headquarters in Addis Ababa. Do you not fear that your participation in that summit described as the last chance summit will again bring about the quorum problem, which will again lead to the failure of the summit?

[Answer] I want to tell you one thing. One must be convinced that the SDAR has always worked to safeguard African unity. The SDAR made a gigantic gesture during the Tripoli II abortive summit by deliberately refraining from participating in the summit. The facts were then unveiled. It was not the SDAR that prevented the holding of the summit. It was a gesture aimed at consolidating African unity, but a sovereign gesture. Recently however we decided that from now on we will attend all meetings and conferences sponsored by the OAU. [end recording]

Statement on Moroccan 'Intransigence'

LD260844 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Today the SDAR Information Ministry issued a statement in connection with the utterances of the Moroccan foreign minister to the effect that the Moroccan Government does not accept negotiation with the SDAR and the Polisario for establishing peace in northwest Africa.

The statement explained that Morocco, by adopting this attitude, is assuming a great responsibility: This irresponsible attitude will prolong the war and the confrontation which Morocco has been imposing despite the positive will and the readiness of some countries of the area.

The SDAR Information Ministry noted that the Moroccan attitude proves Moroccan intransigence and rejection of the chances of peace. Morocco is encouraged in this by increasing U.S. interference, and the new joint U.S.-Moroccan maneuvers are the latest forms of this interference.

The SDAR Information Ministry statement explained that the SDAR Government and the Polisario consider the war that Morocco has been waging against the SDAR as the sole obstacle to building the greater Arab Maghreb, which cannot be done except on the basis of respect for the sovereignty of each people.

MALI

Correction to 19 April Cabinet Reshuffle

AB192136 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Text] Today, 19 April, a presidential decree has been issued. It is decree number 92/PGRM [expansion unknown] on the nomination of members of government. As of Tuesday, 19 April, the government of the Republic is composed of the following persons:

Head of government and Minister of National Defense	Gen Moussa Traore
Minister of:	
State for Equipment	Gen Amadou Baba Diarra
State for Economy and Planning	Oumar Coulibaly
Rural Development	Mady Diallo
Planning	Ahmed Mohamed Ag Hammani
Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	Alioune Blondin Beye
Agriculture	N'fagnanama Kone
National Education	Lieutenant Colonel Sekou Ly
Public Health and Social Affairs	Ngolo Traore
Finance	Drissa Keita
Information and Telecommunications	Mrs Gakou nee Fatou Niang
Sports, Arts and Culture	N'tji Idrissa Mariko
Transport and Public Works	Mamadou Haidara
State for State Firms and Enterprises	Bandiougou Bidia Doukoure
Interior	Lieutenant Colonel Abderhamane Maiga
Labor and Civil Service	Modibo Keita
Justice and Keeper of the Seals	Maj Issa Kongoiba

The rank of minister of state and the order of nomination determines the order of precedence. The present decree which abrogates decree Number 151/PRM of 6 July 1982 will be recorded and published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Only one change can be noted in the composition of the government of 6 July 1982, that is the removal of the Ministry of Energy and Mines. That position was occupied by Mr Robert Tieble N'Daw. The present government of the Republic therefore comprises 17 members compared to 18 in the former government.

NIGER

Upper Volta's Ouedraogo Arrives on Visit

AB251626 Paris AFP in French 1359 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Text] Niamey, 24 Apr (AFP) — Upper Voltan head of state Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo arrived in Niamey on Sunday from Cotonou for a 2-day friendly working visit to Niger.

He was met on arrival at the Niamey airport by Niger's head of state, General Seyni Kountche, and many high-ranking officials. A large crowd stood along the route to the presidential palace to cheer President Ouedraogo and his host.

Major Ouedraogo, chairman of the People's Salvation Council, is accompanied by Interior and Security Minister Maj Harouna Tarnagda, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Michel Kafando, and Minister of Transport, Environment and Tourism Frederic Korsaga.

Answering questions from journalists, Major Ouedraogo indicated that his tour, which has taken him to Togo, Ghana, Benin and which he is continuing in Niger, falls within the framework of Upper Volta's policy of good neighborliness. There should be a lot of understanding, dialogue, and consultation in the subregion in order to make it a prosperous, peaceful, and stable area for the better economic development of our peoples, he stressed.

The Upper Voltan head of state, who came to power on 7 November 1982, also indicated that he hopes to benefit from the experience of General Kountche, who has been ruling Niger for 9 years. Describing relations between Upper Volta and Niger as "problem free," President Ouedraogo stated that he intends toexplore ways of further strengthening relations between Niger and Upper Volta. Just after his arrival, President Ouedraogo was led by General Kountche to the "Green Villa," a large residence overlooking the Niger River reserved for visiting heads of state. The two heads of state will hold their first round of talks therebefore having lunch together.

A final communique will be signed on Monday afternoon.

President Ouedraogo leaves Niamey for Ouagadougou on Tuesday morning after a press conference.

NIGERIA

Al-Qadhdhafi Arrives in Lagos on Visit

AB251708 Paris AFP in French 1633 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Lagos, 25 Apr (AFP) — Libyan Head of State Colonel al-Qadhdhafi arrived at 1500 GMT in Lagos where he was met by President Shehu Shagari. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi — in white uniform and surrounded by a very large contingent of security service personnel, including about a dozen young people, men and women in civilian clothes armed with Kalashnikov machineguns — was accompanied by several ministers.

For this 4-day official visit to Nigeria, the Lagos authorities have also reinforced their security apparatus.

According to External Affairs Minister Ishaya Audu, who confirmed the reopening [words indistinct] official of the Libyan Embassy in Lagos, which was closed down by the Nigerian authorities after it was transformed into a People's Bureau. Talks between the two countries' delegations will center on the Chad and OAU issues and the possible signing of a trade agreement.

Mr Audu described relations between Nigeria and Libya as "not bad, reasonable."

The first private talks between the two heads of state will be held on Tuesday afternoon.

Further Report

AB251900 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] The Libyan leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, arrived in Lagos today to begin a 4-day state visit to the country. He was received at Murtala Mohamed Airport by President Shehu Shagari, the vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme, ministers and members of the diplomatic corps. The Libyan leader was welcomed with a 21-gun salute and cultural display. He also inspected a guard of honor. The (?first) round of talks between President Shehu Shagari and the Libyan leader will take place tomorrow night at State House, Ribadu Road.

Before the beginning of the talks, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is expected to lay a wreath at the Tafawa Balewa Square Cenotaph and visit the National Museum. A Radio Nigeria correspondent said the Libyan leader will pay a day's visit to Kaduna State on Wednesday where he will inspect the [word indistinct] station and civil aviation school in Zaria. He returns to Lagos later in the afternoon to attend a state banquet at the national theater to be given in his honor by President Shehu Shagari. The state visit ends on Thursday with the signing of a joint communique by the two leaders on their talks.

UPPER VOLTA

Communique on Ouedraogo's Niger Visit Cited

AB252155 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Major Dr Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, chairman of the People's Salvation Council and head of state, who has been on friendly working visit to Niger since Sunday, this morning visited the Regional Training Center for Applied Agro-Meteorology and Functional Hydrology, the AGRIMET [expansion unknown] center, the National Pharmaceutical and Chemical Products Bureau and the national museum.

At the end of this visit, President Ouedraogo and his host, General Seyni Kountche, signed the final communique which marked the end of his visit to the Republic of Niger. In this final communique, the two heads of state made a detailed examination of bilateral relations and discussed the situation in the subregion and on the African Continent in general as well as current international issues.

In the afternoon, President Ouedraogo received the Upper Voltan community in Niger.

The head of state and his entourage will leave Niamey tomorrow morning at 0800 for Ouagadougou.

ANGOLA

New Ministers, Deputies Take Office 25 April

MB251357 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] This morning in Luanda, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, administered the oath of office to the new government members who were recently appointed by presidential decrees.

The following are the new government members:

Comrade (Jorge Henrique Varrela de Melo Dias Flora), minister of construction; Comrade (Joaquim Lourenco Mateus Mato) deputy minister of construction for building materials; Comrade Joao Felipe Martins, deputy minister of education for secondary and university teaching, and Comrade Jose Leitao da Costa Silva, secretary of the president for juridical matters.

The ceremony was attended by members of the party, government, and the People's Assembly.

Defense Ministry: South African Attack Suspected

MB260625 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 26 Apr 83

[Text] The South African troops who occupy part of southern Angola have begun suspicious movements and a build-up of troops east of Virei, in Namibe, and it is suspected that the racists may launch an attack on targets within the sovereign territory of the People's Republic of Angola. This was reported to ANGOP by sources of the Angolan Ministry of Defence.

The possibility of an attack is accentuated by the fact that the racist air force has doubled its reconnaissance flights compared to the previous week, and the air force is concentrating its flights over Naulila, Xangongo, Mulondo, a place on the border leading upward to Matala in Huila Province, and also over Ngiva, Nehone, and Mupa. In these reconnaissance flights, at least 21 planes were used, and it is reported that during this period 9 enemy aircraft carried out another survey of the training camp of the second brigade of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola.

It has also been noted that the Pretoria army is pursuing its bellicose and expansionist plans by trying to broaden its area of occupation in Angola in the vain attempt of sabotaging the efforts being made at the international level toward a negotiated settlement of the Namibian problem. With this aim in mind the racists have been increasing their armed actions inside the territory of the People's Republic of Angola by carrying out and launching attacks on economic targets and by also supporting the actions of their proteges, the UNITA bandits, by supplying them with military and logistical equipment. In these operations they use helicopters and aircraft, which penetrate deeply inside our national territory.

The close collaboration and coordination between the so-called UNITA and the racist army no longer need to be proved, as it is obvious that the actions of the gangsters increase whenever the Pretoria troops increase pressure against Angola. At the beginning of the year, for example, it was possible to note how joint concentrations of UNITA and South African troops, particularly their Buffalo Battalion in (Calombo) and Evale occupied areas carried out a series of atrocities against defenseless members of the public.

Regarding the aggressive actions by the South African racists against the territory of the People's Republic of Angola during the first quarter of the year, there were no less than 148 air intrusions, 7 strafings, 5 air bombings, 1 ground shelling, 1 build-up of troops, and 6 troop landings. In these operations they used Mirage and MK-2 Impala aircraft, and Puma and Alouette helicopters, (Settler) planes, involving a total of 265 [words indistinct] aircrat, 10 helicopters, and one small plane.

UNITA Radio on Captured Czechoslovaks 22 April

MB251345 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 22 Apr 83

[UNITA radio: Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Government of Czechoslovakia is seriously disturbed by the capture of 64 of its citizens by UNITA. Czechoslovakia is waging an intensive diplomatic campaign, shouting to the four winds for help in obtaining the release of its 64 citizens taken prisoner by UNITA on 12 March 1983, following the attack by the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] on Alto Catumbela.

A number of African, Asian, and Western European countries have been approached by Czechoslovakia, begging for their good ofices for the release of the 64 Czechoslovaks held by UNITA. As a matter of fact, the compatrioits who closely follow news boradcasts by international radio services are aware of the big reaction to the detention of the 64 Czechoslovak citizens by UNITA in Angola.

International political and charity organizations, some of them through their leaders, themselves, have directly or indirectly appealed to UNITA to release the 64 Czechoslovaks, and they describe their appeals as merely humanitarian. We ask: How many times have these organizations appealed for the release of thousands of Angolan patriots who are innocent, or perhaps only accused of demanding independence and liberty for their country, and are languishing in the dungeons of the tyrannical, criminal, and minority regime of Luanda?

The UNITA leadership headed by a politico-military strategist of international standing, Comrade President Dr Savimbi, is the only body authorized and in a position to determine the fate of the 64 Czechoslovak citizens being held. Also, it is indeed timely for us to remind foreigners in Angola and others who intend to come here about the solemn appeal by Comrade President Dr Savimbi in the message addressed to the nation on 13 May 1982,

through the Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel and reiterated by the Fifth UNITA Congress in Mavinga, Cuando, Cubango, between 26 and 31 July 1982. We quote: UNITA appeals to all foreigners working at any level in cooperation with the illegitimate and minority regime of the MPLA to immediately withdraw from Angola due to the lack of security as a result of the civil war in our country. It is not the objective of UNITA to harm any elements belonging to humanitarian organizations such as the International Red Cross, unquote.

The Czechoslovaks have not only ignored this appeal, but they are an integral part of the imperialist coalition headed by Moscow, which presently exploits, oppresses, and massacres our people, and carries out neocolonialist activities in our country. Thus, no matter where it may come from, the appeal for the release of the 64 Czechoslovaks captured by UNITA will in no way influence the positions that the UNITA leadership may find adequate regarding the Czechoslovak prisoners.

There are people who hypocritically and foolishly talk about innocent men, women, and children when they refer to the 64 captured Czechoslovaks. The Angolan people know, and we ask the world this question: Aren't the Czechoslovaks part of the same force that imposes the Cubans and the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], with their AK-47'S, over our people? Don't the Cubans, the FAPLA, and the MPLA criminals use Czechoslovak equipment and methods against the Angolan people? Let nobody persuade us. The enemies of our people are clearly defined and identified, and for them there is no clemency, but only total war until final victory.

LESOTHO

Jonathan on Water Scheme, Political Parties

MB251704 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 24 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Lesotho has proposed talks with South Africa in order to expedite progress on the giant Lesotho highland water scheme. This was disclosed yesterday by the prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, at the public pitso meeting he was addressing at (Tupakubu ha Senekane) in the Berea District.

The prime minister informed the meeting that the government was anxious for progress on the highland water scheme because Lesotho needed the revenue which it would derive from the sale of water to South Africa, which also needed the water. Lesotho had therefore proposed a meeting to expedite progress, and South Africa had consented. The meeting is due to take place next weekend.

Soliciting the support of the nation over the highland water scheme, Dr Jonathan said that it was the biggest project so far that was going to be tackled by the government in its endeavor to open up employment opportunities for the people of Lesotho so that they can no longer seek work in South Africa. [as heard] The project he said, would not only sell water to South Africa, but would also provide for Lesotho's electricity and irrigation needs.

The prime minister yesterday once again reiterated that he was never going to declare a one-party state in Lesotho, but that the other parties were going to die a natural death, as the Basotho were increasingly rallying around the Basotho National Party [BNP], which was giving them solace in the face of South African-supported terrorism. He also said that people were running to the BNP because of the achievements of its government, amongst which he mentioned the construction of access roads through the food-for-work program, the improvement of schools, the improvement of teachers' and civil servants' salaries, and the food self-suffiency program and others. Concerning the food self-suffiency program, the prime minister also disclosed that the mission of the Food and Agricultural Organization was now in Lesotho to evaluate the program with a view to make improvements if necessary.

With reference to the current drought situation, Dr Jonathan said that international response to Lesotho's appeal for help was good and that food supplies were already arriving in Maseru.

Condemning the current South African-supported acts of aggression on Lesotho, the prime minister said that it has taken on indiscriminate proportions in which anybody has been turned into a target. He repeated his assurance that the government was taking steps to enhance security at village level for the protection of the ordinary Basotho.

MOZAMBIQUE

CPCZ CC Delegation Arrives for Congress

LD260540 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2150 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Mozambique: A delegation of the CPCZ Central Committee, headed by Jindrich Polednik, secretary of the party Central Committee, has arrived in Maputo by air. It is to attend the 4th Congress of the Mozambique Liberation Front, Frelimo.

Trial of South African Trawler Captain Begins

MB251858 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] A Maputo maritime court this evening began hearing the case of a South African fishing boat skipper accused of fishing illegally within the Mozambican economic zone. Captain Peter Davids testified that he did not know the regulations governing Mozambique's sovereignty over its coastal waters and that he had frequently fished close to the coast of Maputo Bay and (Monte Belo). [sentence as heard]

Captain Davids' boat, the Morning Star, was intercepted 13.5 miles off Inhaca Island 2 weeks ago and is said to be under guard in Maputo Harbor.

Mozambique claims a 200-mile economic zone, and Capt Davids faces a stiff fine if found guilty.

NAMIBIA

Two Captured SWAPO Fighters Interviewed

MB251339 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1313 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Windhoek, April 25, SAPA — Two captured SWAPO fighters — one a platoon commander in the movements "Special Unit" and the other a detachment commander — gave details of their bush war operations at a media conference in Windhoek today.

Detachment Commander Hestor Heita, 29, captured on October 14 last year and Platoon Commander Timotheus Petrus, 26, captured on February 14, in the northern farming district of Kamamjab, were members of SWAPO'S military wing, the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN). Both said they were captured after battles with security forces. They were interviewed at the headquarters of the SWA Territory Force in Windhoek.

The two former bush fighters made it clear that SWAPO's "Special Unit," considered its elite force, and the ordinary detachments had different orders and carried out different operations. Both men said they had infiltrated northern SWA/Namibia a number of times. Mr Heita said SWAPO fighters in ordinary detachments had orders not to kill innocent civilians, while Mr Petrus said members of the Special Units were to infiltrate white farms and kill anyone they found on them.

Mr Heita said he had joined SWAPO voluntarily in 1978 after being laid off as a road construction worker. "I joined SWAPO because I was told they always had work for the unemployed. I tried continually to find work, but could not." After crossing the border into Angola he was given six-months basic training followed by two months on a leadership course. This was followed by eight months in the Crimea in the Soviet Union, learning about radar and tanks.

On the course there were about 50 SWAPO members, as well as people from Zimbabwe, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan and the African National Congress of South Africa. "Each week there were also two four-hour sessions of political learning," Mr Heita said. From the Soviet Union he was transferred to a base at Lubango in southern Angola, the headquarters of many operations luanched into SWA/Namibia

"When I joined SWAPO we were told this country is Namibia and it is under South Africa, and we must rule ourselves. I was told South Africa belongs to South Africa and Namibia belongs to Namibia," he said. The ranks of SWAPO were not only filled by men from Ovambo, there was also Namas, Hereros, and even some Rehoboth Basters in the movement, Mr Heita said.

During his time as a fighter in the north, Mr Heita said, he had a total of seven contacts with the security forces in which he had shot "a number of people." When asked how many he said: "I can't say. We had hit and run tactics." He had shot only at people wearing uniforms. SWAPO fighters were given orders not to kill innocent civilians, as this was counterproductive. "There are, however, people in SWAPO who don't have any discipline who do this sort of thing."

From time to time their leaders in Angola heard on the South African radio about atrocities committed by SWAPO. When units were questioned whether or not they had been in an area where an atrocity had been commited they said "The Boers did it," Mr Heita said. He added that there were no permanent SWAPO bases in SWA/Namibia

In answer to a question Mr Heita said SWAPO fighters in Angola were not allowed to practice Christianity. According to him, the SWAPO leader, Mr Sam Nujoma, had been as far south in Angola as Xangongo in 1981, about 75km north of the SWA/Namibian border. He had met Mr Nujoma a number of times. "The people like him, but they don't know him. They hear he is a good leader," he said.

On October 14 last year he had been captured in southern Angola while trying to ambush a South African convoy coming southwards from Xangongo. During the ensuing firefight he was shot in the leg and then taken to Oshakati, where his leg was amputated. A reporter asked him if he again confronted a SWAPO fighter, would he shoot him? "I will not shoot anyone. I am tired of war. I have lost my leg and have nothing," Mr Heita said. He said after his capture he had not been assaulted, and he was surprised his adversaries had not shot him when they captured him.

Mr Petrus told newsmen he had first received training to fight in an ordinary detachment. Last year he was sent to the Volcano Base at Lubango for training in SWAPO'S Special Unit. While the ordinary detachment operated mainly in Ovambo, the Special Units carried far more weapons and equipment and had to infiltrate as far as Windhoek. The Special Unit had been planned, he said, by Mr Nujoma and SWAPO's former secretary of defence, Mr Peter Nanyemba, who was killed in a motor car accident near Lubango last month.

Mr Petrus said that before joining SWAPO he had also been unemployed, after being fired from his job as a mine worker near Swakopmund.

"Our orders were to attack any of the farms we came to and kill the whites on them. We were told to kill even children," Mr Petrus said. On February 15 this year he was with a company of 44 SWAPO fighters when they made contact with the security forces between Ruacana in western Ovambo and Kamanjab. In the fighting 15 of the SWAPO insurgents were killed and three more the following day. He was captured on February 15.

When asked if SWAPO fighters in the Special Unit had been ordered to distinguish between whom they killed on farms, Mr Petrus replied: "We were told if we come to a farm we must kill everyone — that is the only way to free Namibia."

Latest SWAPO Campaign Called 'Big Failure'

MB251330 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1244 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Windhoek, April 25, SAPA — The intensity of SWAPO's present armed onslaught was fast declining towards the lowest level in the SWA/Namibian bush war, the chief of staff employment of the SWA Territory Force, Brigadier Gert van Niewkerk, said in Windhoek today. Security forces in the territory had tracked down and killed 309 insurgents between February 15 and April 15. In the same period, security forces lost 27 men, while SWAPO terrorists killed 33 civilians and abducted 161 civilians to Angola.

Addressing a news conference in Windhoek, Brigadier van Niekerk said SWAPO had launched a propaganda campaign concerning its military action, which was "distorted, exaggerated, and devoid of truth." The propaganda effort by SWAPO had been timed to coincide with the United Nations conference on SWA/Namibia, which begins in Paris today. Action by SWAPO'S military wing was primarily aimed at the political mobilisation of the civilian population in northern SWA/Namibia.

SWAPO's military operations, which were of secondary concern, reached a peak in 1980 and then steadily decreased to an all-time low in the second half of last year. "Although the present military situation is fast returning to what it was during the second half of 1982, it must be expected SWAPO's future actions will probably centre on those which offer a low risk factor, yet guarantee good publicity for the propaganda machine," Brigadier Van Niekerk said.

Outlining SWAPO'S latest campaign, described as a "big failure," the brigadier said preparation and training of a SWAPO special unit had begun last May, immediately after the organisation's infiltration effort of farming districts in northern SWA/Namibia. For the offensive this year SWAPO's military command had planned to assign about 650 men from a special unit, in 14 companies of 40 to 50 men each, and about 950 insurgents from the organisation's "front deployments" in southern Angola. It had been intended that a varying number of companies from the Special Unit, supported by detachments from the "front deployment" would sweep from Kaokoland in the west through Ovambo to Kavango in the east. Several of them had to conduct decoy operations to enable five selected companies to infiltrate commercial farmland bordering the Etosha Pans in the west, the south and the east.

Brigadier van Niekerk said training of the insurgents was carried out in the southern Angolan garrison town of Lubango under the supervision of Russian, Cuban and East German instructors. The offensive was launched from the southern Angolan bases of Camaha in the west, headquarters of the Angolan Army's Second Brigade, and Cuvelai in Cunene Province, headquarters of the Angolan Army's 11th Brigade.

"The Angolan Government and its armed forces were aware of SWAPO's actions and gave SWAPO active logistical support," Brigadier van Niekerk said. "It happened at a time when Angola was negotiating with South Africa." Brigadier van Niekerk said the infiltration effort had been preceded in the first weeks of February by various acts of sabotage, killings of unarmed civilians and bombardment with mortars of a security forces camp at Sodoliet in Kaokoland near the Angolan border with SWA/Namibia. The mortar attack was "totally ineffectual," and security forces suffered no losses.

Outlining security forces counter-action, codenamed "Phoenix" during the incursion, Brigadier van Niekerk said one company of insurgents crossed the border during the night of February 13. Security forces tracked down and killed 18 members of the company. On February 17 a SWAPO company crossed the border east of Ruacana, and 39 insurgents were killed. In a series of armed encounters, security forces killed 41 terrorists belonging to three SWAPO companies deployed in central Ovambo. Also in central Ovambo, security forces killed 53 insurgents from three companies who had crossed the border. The remainder of the terrorists fled back to Angola without initiating any action. In Eastern Ovambo and Kavango, security forces killed six members of two SWAPO companies that crossed the border on February 18. The rest fled back to Cuvelai in Angola. Of the terrorists assigned to infiltrate farming areas, only 12 men reached their destinations. All of them were killed in follow-up operations by the security forces, Brigadier van Niekerk said.

SOUTH AFRICA

Labor Party Resigns From Black Alliance

MB251204 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] The Labor Party has resigned from the South African Black Alliance, from which it was suspended earlier this year for its decision to participate in the new constitutional plans.

The leader of the Labor Party, Reverand Allan Hendrickse, said from his home in Uitenhage today that although the party still believed in black unity it realized that fundamental differences existed within the alliance with regard to strategy. He told our Cape Town news staff that this was clear from unwarranted attacks on the Labor Party by the chairman of the alliance, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly and the Inkatha Movement. Mr Hendrickse said a detailed report on the resignation would be submitted to Chief Buthelezi shortly.

The Labor Party was suspended at a meeting of the alliance in February and given until next month to show why it should not be expelled. The alliance now consists of Inkatha, the Indian Reform Party, and the Inyanza Movement of Mr Enos Mabuza, of Kangwane.

Pretoria: No RSA-Backed Saboteurs in Mozambique

MB251423 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1407 GMT 25 Apr 83

[Text] Pretoria, April 25, SAPA — The Foreign Affairs Ministry has dismissed as completely untrue a Mozambican claim that a group of South African saboteurs had infiltrated the former Portuguese territory last week. The Mozambique news agency,

AIM said men in civilian clothes had opened fire after being intercepted last Tuesday by Mozambican troops near the country's border with South Africa. "They abandoned their bags, inside which were 64 charges and special clocks for assembling time bombs," the agency said. Approached for comment in Pretoria this afternoon, a foreign affairs spokeswoman said: "We deny the report. It's completely untrue, and we have no further comment on the issue."

ZIMBABWE

Radio Truth on Troubles in Matebeleland

MB250737 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in Ndebele to Zimbabwe 1700 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt][Poem] O Zimbabwe! Zimbabwe blanketed by a heavy black voice. People are crying for light. Our ancestors are shedding anguished tears. Why is it that the people died? Did they die for this? Father and mother stare at each other speechless. Words are inscribed in their hearts. O my son! O my daughter! You died! My child! My child! Why is it that you do not respond? When is the sun going to rise? O my God! They cry. Their tears are their food. Mugabe took away my cattle. We have nothing to eat. O God, give us the sustenance of life once more. [end poem] These are the words that describe the misery of those bereaved in Matabeleland. Their children were killed by a group from the National Army. They were unarmed and had done nothing wrong. The childrens' parents, their hearts heavy, felt an indescribable pain. Their sons, members of the Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army [ZIPRA], were on friendly terms with ZANU during the bush war struggle for a common cause: freedom, freedom for all people, regardless of tribal affiliation, language or color.

After the Lancaster House agreement, members of ZIPRA believed in the promises of peace and reconciliation. They believed that they would be treated with respect and that their wishes would be recognized. All the Shonas, Zesurus, Korekores, Ndawus, Karangas, and whites were all hoping for one thing: Among all the promises Mugabe made, he promised to respect cultural differences, the freedom of speech, and the right to live wherever one chooses. Mugabe and ZIPRA were allies in the bush war, but when elections came in 1980, Mugabe terminated the friendship. He figured that the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army [ZANLA] and ZIPRA represented two different factions; one representing Shonas and the other representing Ndebeles. Everyone was disturbed over Mugabe's division of the nation. At that time, Mugabe and his cohorts, despite their talk of reconciliation, began to exhibit cruelty against the Ndebeles. The clash that occurred between [ZANLA] and ZIPRA in 1981 was not the fault of the Ndebeles or in any way an action by Joshua Nkomo, president of ZAPU. At about the same time, a Cabinet member was involved in an altercation and a raid, a punishable offense, of similar significance. This sort of clash is a traditional Ndebele way of encouraging warriors to assert their rights and to demonstrate their devotion to duty and their strong determination to be respected throughout the nation. They sought to have Ndebeles represented in the central government, among chairmen of parastatal agencies and in provincial administrations, especially in the Province of Matabeleland. What happened is that they were given Shona-speaking officials, members of ZANU-PF, demonstrating ZANU-PF's belligerent and discriminatory practices.

Arms were then discovered in areas that had been infested with bush fighters. Who did Mugabe point a finger at? Mugabe knew about the existence of arms caches from the very beginning, even before they were unearthed, because it had been agreed that ZIPRA would handle its own weapons supplies for a time, in the same manner that ZANU still does in some parts of Zimbabwe. ZANLA and ZIPRA also agreed to unite and form a national army. A directive calling for all arms to be surrendered to the National Army was then issued. Mugabe and ZANU-PF are using the ZIPRA arsenal to crush ZAPU, which leads ZIPRA.

President Joshua Nkomo, together with other ZAPU leaders, were expelled from Parliament, and ZIPRA commanders were arrested and jailed. It was clear that Mugabe had decided to take strong action against Nkomo's criticism of ZANU-PF's declared intention to introduce a one-party state. Mugabe has repeatedly stated that he wants a one-party state to facilitate the formulation of laws and economic planning. This is a trick to destroy other political groups, a tried and true method of Marxist communists in agreement with the teachings of Karl Marx, Stalin, and Chairman Mao of Communist China.

What is now happening? Do you remember the opening words of the Psalms? O my son! O my daughter! They died. Because of what? Because of what? O what is it? Hundreds of innocent people are being slaughtered in Matabeleland. President Joshua Nkomo has repeatedly tried to find the root cause of this pestilence so a proper remedy can be applied to halt these dirty practices and initiate a meaningful way of governing the country to the contentment of everyone.

Some leaders, including Ian Douglas Smith, have come up with suggestions that would establish peace and justice in Zimbabwe. Robert Mugabe and his Central Committee have turned down such suggestions, stating that they would lead to what? This was a provocative response by the government. This is what sparked the dissident activities. Dissidents are fighting for the right to be heard. They want changes in society that will encourage self-respect earned through unselfish dedication to duty. They know that Mugabe was the one who broke the alliance of the Patriotic Front, when the front wanted unity. Even now the front still wants unity, but the deeds of their erstwhile friend prevent this. The front wants a roundtable discussion with the government, but the government refuses to listen. Instead, the government arrests their leaders and disrespectfully detains them.

The members of the Patriotic Front are at a loss as to what to do next, since the matter cannot be resolved through legal channels. Some hotheads have opted for warfare, some are holding tourists hostage to force the government to release their leaders from custody. Perhaps these methods are as foolish as ZANU's declaration that it will not be satisfied until all dissident activity is quashed. The dissident activities should have opened the government's eyes to the needs of the Ndebele people. Peaceful methods to resolve these problems should be found.